# TRANSITION METAL-CARBENE COMPLEXES

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# *Contents*



# *I. Introduction*

The term metal-carbene complexes refers here to compounds of the general type



in which a carbene, :CXY, is coordinated to a metal atom, M, and *Ln* simply represents the various other coordinated ligands. At the present time, few complexes [which are of  $Hg(II)$ ,  $Pt(II)$ , and  $Pd(II)$ , and a  $Cr(0)$  complex; see Table III] are known which have more than one carbene ligand per metal center. The carbene *ligand* is usually bound terminally, but is also found as a bridging moiety. In the latter case, the "carbene-carbon" atom,  $C_{\text{carb}}$ , is no longer trigonal, and such compounds do not come within the scope of this review, although brief reference is made to a few examples. However, the complex  $(Me_3SiCH_2)_2Nb(CSiMe_3)_2Nb(CH_2SiMe_3)_2$  might be regarded as having bridging (metallo)carbene groups.<sup>1</sup> Complexes are usually neutral, but cationic species are also known and anionic ones have been postulated as reaction intermediates (see section VI). For cationic and anionic complexes, an alternative symbolism is to regard these compounds as transition metal substituted carbonium ions or carbanions. Likewise neutral carbene complexes may be alternatively regarded as transition metal ylides, like the Wittig (e.g., Ph<sub>3</sub>garded as transition metal fildes, the the with  $(c, g, \tau)$  in a "soft" ligand, being normally found in complexes in which the metal is in a low oxidation state, but  $Rh(III)$  and  $Pt(IV)$ compounds have been described; the carbene ligand for our purpose is classed as a neutral species. With a very few exceptions (see section III.F), stable carbene complexes have been prepared only when either  $X$  or  $Y$  (or both) is an element other than carbon (a heteroatom), commonly O, S, or N; and  $T$  interaction between the carbons carbon  $(T - )$  and  $Y$  or  $V$ is an important factor in stabilizing the complexes. The free  $\alpha$  an important factor in stabilizing the complexes. The free  $\frac{1}{2}$  be seen to see the regard in value of the region of the valencewill be seen,  $C_{\text{carb}}$  may be regarded in valence-bond language as an  $sp<sup>2</sup>$  C. However, the term carbene complex does not include alkenyl- or alkynyl-metal compounds and related species, in which a carbon ligand atom is formally doubly bonded to  $X$  or  $Y$ .

Although the first carbene complexes were evidently prepared in 1915,<sup>1b</sup> they were not recognized as such until recently,<sup>2, 3</sup> and the current interest started with the preparation of (OC)<sub>5</sub>WC(OMe)Ph,<sup>4</sup> the first carbene complex to be so

<sup>(1)</sup> F. Huq, W. Mowat, A. C. Skapski, and G. Wilkinson, *Chem. Com-mun.,* 1477(1971).

<sup>(</sup>Ia) But with opposite polarity.

<sup>(</sup>Ib) L. Chugaev and M. Skanavy-Grigorizeva, /. *Russ. Chem. Soc,* 

<sup>(2)</sup> G. Rouschias and B. L. Shaw, Chem. Commun., 183 (1970).

<sup>(2)</sup> G. Rouschias and B. L. Shaw, *Chem. Commun.,* 183 (1970). (3) A. Burke, A. L. Balch, and J. H. Enemark, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc,*  92, 2555 (1970); W. M. Butler and J. H. Enemark, *Inorg. Chem.,* 10,

<sup>2416(1971).&</sup>lt;br>(4) E. O. Fischer and A. Maasböl, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.*, 3,<br>580(1964).



# *Table I*  **X-Ray Structural Data for Carbene Complexes of Cr, Mo, and W<sup>0</sup>**

 $\alpha$  Bond lengths are reported in Å (errors not reported).

formulated. A brief summary, mainly of work with stable carbene complexes of Cr, Mo, and W, carried out by Fischer and coworkers, has recently appeared.<sup>5</sup>

In the present review, our main aim has been to provide a comprehensive account to Nov 1971, relating to syntheses and properties of stable carbene complexes. Additionally, selected data on metal-carbene intermediates are presented in section VI, but a comprehensive account is available; see section VI.

# **II. Structure and Bonding**

Eto

Structural data for carbene complexes are summarized in Tables I and II. For the compounds of the group VI metals (Table I),  $C_{\text{carb}}$  and the three substituents M, X, and Y are coplanar, and the bond angles about  $C_{\rm carb}$  [e.g., 122, 104, and 134° for  $(CO)_5$ CrC $(OMe)$ Ph<sup>6</sup>] clearly show the sp<sup>2</sup> character of the carbon. This description receives support from the $C_{\text{carb}}$ -X bond lengths;  $e.g. (X = 0)$ , 1.33 Å in the same complex is considerably shorter than a normal C-O single bond distance ( $\sim$ 1.43 Å) and is even shorter than corresponding C-O

(5) E. O. Fischer, *Rev. Pure Appl. Chem.,* 24,407(1970).

bonds in esters. This implies  $p_{\pi}-p_{\pi}$  overlap, involving the empty p orbital of the  $C_{\text{carb}}$ . The phenyl substituent of this compound lies approximately perpendicular to the  $C_{\text{carb}}$ bonding plane and presumably there is no  $\pi$  overlap with the aromatic system. However, the  $C_{\text{carb}}$ -Ph bond length, 1.47 Å, is fully consistent with a bond between two trigonal carbons. The bonding in these complexes may be described in terms of the donation of a pair of electrons from an  $sp<sup>2</sup>$  set of the (singlet) carbene-carbon atom to the metal, and back-donation of electrons from the metal into the vacant  $(p_z)$  orbital on Ccarb; the relative weights of these is discussed below. The metal-carbon distance  $(2.04 \text{ Å})$  is significantly longer than the  $Cr-C(O)$  distances (1.96–1.91 Å). A similar lengthening is found also in the complex cis-triphenylphosphine(methoxymethylcarbene)tetracarbonylchromium(0)<sup>7</sup> and in related complexes, and is not therefore due to the steric influence of the phenyl group. A more probable reason, receiving much confirmatory evidence from spectroscopic data, is that the  $\pi$ acceptor/ $\sigma$ -donor ratio is significantly lower for carbene ligands than for CO. This view is in harmony with the observation

(6) O. S. Mills and A. D. Redhouse, /. *Chem. Soc. A,* 642 (1968). (7) O. S. MiUs and A. D. Redhouse, *ibid.,* 1274(1969).

# *Table II*

#### **X-Ray Structural Data for Carbene Complexes of Groups VII and VIII Metals**



that much of the electrophilicity of  $C_{\text{carb}}$  is relieved by  $p_{\pi}$ - $p_{\pi}$ bonding with oxygen. Replacement of the heteroatom oxygen by nitrogen in the complex  $(OC)_5$ CrC $(NEt_2)$ Me results in a yet longer Cr-C<sub>carb</sub> distance  $(2.16 \text{ Å})$ .<sup>8</sup> In this case, the bond can have little double bond character, since the calculated

Cr-C(sp<sup>2</sup> ) single bond distance is 2.21 A [using **a** covalent radius for Cr(0) of 1.48 Å $^{\circ}$ ]. As would be expected, the C $_{\rm{carb}}$ –N distance is short, 1.31 A, comparable with the corresponding distance in acetanilide  $(1.35 \text{ Å})$ .<sup>10</sup> The Cr-C(O) distances

<sup>(8)</sup> J. A. Connor and O. S. Mills, J. Chem. Soc. A, 334 (1969). (9) F. A. Cotton and D. C. Richardson, *Inorg. Chem.*, 5, 1851 (1966).

trans to the carbene group are shorter than other metal carbonyl bonds in the complexes (OC)<sub>5</sub>CrC(OMe)Ph,<sup>6</sup> (OC)<sub>5</sub>- $CrC(OMe)Me,$ <sup>6</sup> (OC)<sub>5</sub>CrC(NHMe)Me,<sup>11</sup> and (OC)<sub>5</sub>CrC- $(NEt<sub>2</sub>)Me<sup>8</sup>$  [and shorter than others apart from that trans to phosphine in (Ph<sub>3</sub>P)(OC)<sub>4</sub>CrC(OMe)Me<sup>7</sup>]. While individual differences are not always experimentally significant, together they certainly suggest that back-donation from Cr to C(O) is enhanced by the presence of a trans carbene group, which thus competes unequally for formally nonbonding electrons localized on Cr.

Turning to the platinum-carbene complexes for which structural data are available (Table II), similarities are evident. For example, the bonding environment of  $C_{\text{earth}}$  is again trigonal, Pt- $C_{\text{carb}}$  is longer than other platinum(II)-carbon distances *[e.g.,* Pt-C(O)], and there is considerable shortening of the C-X and/or C-Y bonds. In the compound *trans-CU-*  $(PEt<sub>3</sub>)PtC(NPhCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$ , the atoms forming the  $C<sub>earb</sub>$  environment are coplanar to within 0.006 Å.<sup>12</sup> The Pt-C<sub>carb</sub> distance  $(2.02 \text{ Å})$  is significantly longer than the platinum-carbon distance<sup>13</sup> (1.74 Å) in *trans*-[Cl<sub>2</sub>(4-MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>NO)PtCO] and other carbonyl derivatives, and the  $C_{\rm carb}$ -N lengths (1.35 Å) are likewise shorter than expected for single bonds. In this case, as in  $cis$ -Cl<sub>2</sub>(PEt<sub>3</sub>)PtC(OEt)NHPh, <sup>14</sup>  $\pi$ -bonding appears to lie predominantly within the CXY moiety rather than in the Pt-C bond. The platinum-carbon distance of the im- $\frac{1}{2}$  is the complexity of  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  to the predicted<sup>15</sup> single bond length (2.05 Å). It is interesting to note that in both the cis and trans platinum derivatives, bond lengths trans to the carbene  $(Pt-C1 2 36514$  and  $Pt-P 2 29$   $Å 12$  respectively) show a trans influence for that ligand very close to that of a tertiary phosphine (see section V). Similar conclusions may be made on the basis of (i) the Pt-Cl bond length in cis complexes [which are almost identical with those found in  $cis$ -( $R_3P_2Cl_2Pt$ ], and (ii) spectroscopic data (see section V). In the infrared (ix) spectrum of the cis carbons 14 there is a In the initiated (ii) spectrum of the cis carbeit,<sup>2</sup> there is a value at 3130 cm<sup>-1</sup> (which moves to 2240 cm<sup>-1</sup> of deuteration)  $200-200$  cm-1 lower than found<sup>16</sup> in the chromium carbene complexes  $(OC)_{5}CrC(RHN)Me$  and possibly implies a partial positive charge on the XY (O, N) atoms, the greater part being at the less electronegative nitrogen center. This suggests a contribution to the structure of the ylide forms 1 and 2, with 1 being the more important.

The structure of  $(OC)_3Fe(PhC-O)_2Fe(CO)_3$  once again reveals a planar environment for the  $C_{\rm carb}$  atoms (in this case within 0.001 Å) and a much shortened (1.26 Å)  $C_{\rm carb}$ -O



(10) C. J. Brown, *Acta Crystallogr.,* 21,442 (1966).

- (12) D. J. Cardin, B. Cetinkaya, M. F. Lappert, Lj. Manojlovic-Muir, and K. W. Muir, *ibid.,* 400(1971).
- (13) M. Orchin and P. J. Schmidt, *Coord. Chem. Rev.,* 3,345 (1968).
- (14) E. M. Badley, J. Chatt, R. L. Richards, and G. A. Sim, Chem.<br>Commun., 1322 (1969); J. Chem. Soc. A, 21 (1971); E. M. Badley, B. J. L.<br>Kilby, and R. L. Richards, J. Organometal. Chem., 27, C37 (1971).
- (15) Chem. Soc. Spec. Publ., No. 18 (1965).
- (16) J. A. Connor and E. O. Fischer, /. *Chem. Soc. A,* 578 (1969).

bond.<sup>17</sup> These features would also be expected for a benzoyl complex, but clearly no decision between the two formulations can be made from these data, although the previous shortest  $C_{\rm carb}$ -O length (1.30 Å) occurs in the anion  $[\pi$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>(OC)<sub>2</sub>-MnC(O)Ph]<sup>-</sup>.<sup>18</sup> As in carbene complexes, the M-C<sub>carb</sub> distance  $(1.95 \text{ Å})$  is markedly longer than the metal-carbonyl lengths (1.80 Å) indicating much lower  $\pi$  character. The phenyl group is also twisted from the plane of the carbene ligand and is presumably not involved in  $\pi$  overlap with C<sub>carb</sub>.

The complex  $(OC)_{3}Fe[PhC.C(Ph)S]Fe(CO)_{3}$  presents rather a different picture.<sup>19</sup> It is difficult to make valid comparisons *(e.g.,* the uncertainty in the radius of Fe) in a structure of this type, but the spatial arrangement (see Table II) indicates that a delocalized  $\pi$  system predominates in the bonding of the "carbene ligand." It is probably better to regard this as a complex formed from reaction of the intermediate carbene with an iron substrate rather than as a "carbene complex."

The carbene in  $Ru_3(CO)_9H[CC(G_6H_5)C_6H_4]$  is also bonded in a most unusual way, there being interactions with all three ruthenium atoms.<sup>20</sup> The mean  $Ru-C_{\text{carb}}$  distance is not very much greater than the mean ruthenium-carbonyl distance, suggesting a significant amount of double bonding with the metal. This is supported by the coplanarity of the three-carbon framework of the carbene ligand and the two metal atoms to which it is bonded (see Table II). Once again, a delocalized  $\pi$ system is an apposite description. The first compound reported without a stabilizing heteroatom present in the carbene ligand, pentacarbonyl(2,3-diphenylcyclopropenylidene)chromium(0), presents a somewhat similar situation.<sup>21</sup> There is considerable double bond character in the metal-carbene bond (2.05 A) *(e.g.,* see ref 7) and a distortion of the threemembered ring toward a cyclopropene system. The carboncarbon distances of the ring are not, however, very different from those of the aromatic triphenylcyclopropenylium cat-If the stability of the complex is undoubtedly associated with aromaticity in the carbene ligand.

i 1919 - Andrew March 1919 - Andrew March 1919 The X-ray analysis of  $cis$ -Cl<sub>2</sub>PdC(NMeH)NHNHCNMeH (see Table III), a palladium analog of the "Chugaev-salt" type<sup>3</sup> establishes the dicarbene type of structure first put forward<sup>2</sup> on the basis of nmr studies for these complexes.

In summary, for simple group VI carbene complexes there are structural resemblances between alkoxycarbene- and aminocarbene-metal complexes, such as



or and the state of and carboxylic esters and amides, respectively. Thus, the  $C_{\rm carb}$ -O and  $C_{\rm carb}$ -N bonds have considerable multiple bond character, as indicated by their lengths, and also by the high energy barriers to rotation about C-O and C-N bonds,

- (19) G. N. Schrauzer, H. N. Rabinowitz, J. A. K. Frank, and I. C. Paul,/. *Amer.Chem. Soc,* 92, 212(1970).
- (20) A. W. Parkins, E. O. Fischer, G. Huttner, and D. Regler, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl,* 9, 633 (1970).
- (21) G. Huttner, S. Schelle, and O. S. Mills, *ibid.,* 8, 515 (1969).
- (22) M. Sundaralingam and L. H. Jensen, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc,* 88, 198(1966).

<sup>(11)</sup> P. E. Baikie, E. O. Fischer, and O. S. Mills, *Chem. Commun.,* 1199 (1967).

<sup>(17)</sup> P. F. Lindley and O. S. Mills, *ibid.*, 1279 (1969); E. O. Fischer, V. Kiener, D. St. P. Bunbury, E. Frank, P. F. Lindley, and O. S. Mills, Chem. Commun., 1378 (1968); E. Frank and D. St. P. Bunbury, J. Chem. Soc. A,

<sup>(18)</sup> E. Hadicke and W. Hoppe, *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. B, 11,* 760 (1971).

whereas the barriers to rotation about the metal-C bonds are not high (see section V). Furthermore,  $C_{\text{carb}}$  has electrophilic character, as is evident from the highly deshielded  $C_{\text{carb}}$  (<sup>13</sup>C nmr spectrum; see section V),<sup>23</sup> and the OR displacement reactions  $(e.g., by NR<sub>2</sub>; see sections III.C and IV.B.1).$  The latter reactions, incidentally, support the suggestion (see above) that  $O^{-1}C_{\text{carb}}$  is less significant than  $N-C_{\text{carb}}$ ; and finally the hydrogen atoms of  $CH_3-C_{\text{carb}}$  have considerable acidity (see section III.C). It is generally considered that a nucleophilic carbene ligand is a strong  $\sigma$  donor but a poor  $\pi$  acceptor, and spectroscopic and electric dipole moment data (see section V), as well as the results discussed above, have been cited

# **III. Syntheses**

in support.

## **A. INTRODUCTION**

In the brief time since the first authenticated report of a carbene complex by Fischer and Maasböl,<sup>4</sup> several methods of preparation have been discovered. The various types of synthesis have differed widely in generality and it will be convenient to deal with each separately. They may be classified according to the headings of sections III.B to III.J. In Table III data are collected for transition metal-carbene complexes, including methods of synthesis.

# **B. SYNTHESES INVOLVING MODIFICATION OF A COORDINATED (NONCARBENE) CARBON LIGAND**

The early syntheses of group VI metal-carbene complexes involved attack at coordinated carbonyl by nucleophiles (LiMe, LiPh, etc.) to give the anionic acyllithium salts which could be converted into the corresponding tetraalkylammonium compounds. Acidification followed by treatment with diazomethane afforded the carbene complexes. This is illustrated in eq 1. The yields are generally good except for the last two

$$
W(CO)_{6} + Liph \xrightarrow{(Et_{2}O)} (OC)_{3}W COPh-Li^{+} \xrightarrow{Me_{4}NCl} \text{[Me}_{4}Nj^{+}[(CO)_{3}W COPh] - \xrightarrow{(H^{+})} \text{[Me}_{2}Nj^{+}[(CO)_{3}WCOPh] - \xrightarrow{CH_{2}N_{2}} (OC)_{3}WC(OMe)Ph (1)
$$

not isolated

stages where they are variable  $[e.g., (OC)_5WC(OMe)Ph, 31\%;$  $(OC)_5WC(OMe)Me, 77\%$ ; based on the ammonium salts].<sup>27</sup>

The hydroxycarbene-group VI metal intermediates were not isolated (for Fe, Ru, and Re compounds, see Table III), and attempts to do so by removal of solvent from solutions afforded aldehyde (acetaldehyde and benzaldehyde from methoxy- and phenoxycarbenes, respectively) and metal hexacarbonyl.<sup>25</sup> This behavior is similar to that found upon addition of excess aryllithium reagents to iron pentacarbonyl, fol-

- (25) G. Huttner and S. Lange, *Chem. Ber.,* **103,**3149 (1970).
- (26) D. J. Cardin, B. Cetinkaya, E. Cetinkaya, M. F. Lappert, Lj. M. Muir, and K. W. Muir, *J. Organometal. Chem.,* in press.
- (27) E. O. Fischer and A. Maasbol, *Chem. Ber.,* **100,** 2445 (1967).
- (27a) C. G. Kreiter and E. O. Fischer, *ibid.,* 103, 1561 (1970).

lowed by acidification, when the aromatic aldehyde was formed in  $60\%$  yield together with small quantities of other aromatic carbonyl compounds.<sup>28</sup>

It was later discovered that oxonium salts are good alkylating agents in this synthesis, and furthermore can be used directly on the lithium salts, as illustrated in eq  $2.29a$ , b

$$
\text{Cr(CO)}_{6} + \text{Line} \xrightarrow{\text{(Et}_{6}O)} (\text{OC})_{6} \text{CrCOMe-Li}^{+} \xrightarrow{\text{Me}_{6} \text{OBF}_{4}} (\text{H}_{2}O)
$$
\n
$$
(\text{OC})_{5} \text{CrC(OMe)} \text{Me} + \text{LiBF}_{4} + \text{Me}_{2} \text{O} \quad (2)
$$

The great generality and usefulness of this method is readily appreciated from a glance at the appropriate column of Table III; only a few examples will be discussed here. The lithium salts react with chlorotrimethylsilane directly at ambient temperatures affording siloxycarbenes (eq 3).<sup>30</sup> The process is not

$$
(OC)_5CrCOMe^-Li^+ + ClSiMe_3 \longrightarrow (OC)_5CrC(OSiMe_3)Me + LiCl \quad (3)
$$

always straightforward; for example, with iron pentacarbonyl the reaction takes an unexpected course (eq 4).<sup>31</sup> The anion  $(OC)<sub>n</sub> MCOR<sup>-</sup>$  may clearly behave either as an alkoxy anion *(e.g.,* eq 3) or as a carbanion *(e.g.,* eq 4).

$$
Fe(CO)_{5} + Liph \longrightarrow (OC)_{4}FeCOPh^{-}Li^{+} \frac{Me_{3}OBF_{4}}{[Fe(CO)_{5}]}
$$
  
\n
$$
(OC)_{4}Fe \longrightarrow Fe(CO)_{4} \text{ (and carbonyl (4) bridged isomer)}
$$
  
\n
$$
H
$$

It is also interesting that reaction of the lithium ferrate (OC)<sub>4</sub>FeCOPh<sup>-</sup>Li<sup>+</sup> with trityl chloride results in oxidation<sup>31</sup> and formation of the di- $\mu$ -acyl-diiron hexacarbonyls. The structures of these are known<sup>17</sup> to involve bonding of both carbene carbon atoms to the same metal atom, and this reaction must therefore involve molecular rearrangement. The formation of the  $\mu$ -hydrido-carbonyl cluster carbene complex<sup>20</sup>  $Ru_3(CO)_9H(C_6H_5CC_6H_4)$  presumably follows a different course, but again the oxygen atom of the reactive carbonyl group is lost. However, it is not only mononuclear carbonyls which behave in the simplest fashion, as illustrated in eq 5.<sup>32</sup>

$$
Mn_2(CO)_{10} + \text{LiR} \longrightarrow (OC)_9 Mn_2COR-Li^+ \xrightarrow{R^1_3 OBF_4} (OC)_9 Mn_2C(OR^1)R \quad (5)
$$

This synthesis is not restricted to alkyl- and aryllithiums. Ferrocenyllithium<sup>33</sup> reacts with chromium hexacarbonyl, and treatment with  $Et_3OBF_4$  affords complex 3. Alkoxyaminocarbene complexes can be prepared directly using dialkylamidolithium reagents (eq  $6$ ).<sup>34</sup>

- (31) E. O. Fischer and V. Kiener, *ibid.,* 23, 215 (1970).
- (32) E. O. Fischer and E. Offhaus, *Chem. Ber.,* **102,** 2449 (1969).
- (33) G. A. Moser, E. O. Fischer, and M. D. Rausch, *J. Organometal. Chem.,* 27, 379 (1971); J. A. Connor, E. M. Jones, and J. P. Lloyd, *ibid.,*
- 24,C20(1970).
- (34) E. O. Fischer and H. J. Kollmeier, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.,*  9,309(1970).

<sup>(23)</sup> **L.** F. Farnell, E. W. Randall, and E. Rosenberg, *Chem. Commun.,*  1078(1971).

<sup>(24)</sup> J. R. Knox and C. K. Prout, *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. B,* 25, 1952 (1969).

<sup>(28)</sup> M. Ryang, I. Rhee, and S. Tsutsumi, *Bull. Chem. Soc. Jap.*, 37, 344 (1964).

<sup>(29) (</sup>a) R. Aumann and E. O. Fischer, *Chem. Ber.,* **101,** 954 (1968); (b) M. Y. Darensbourg and D. J. Darensbourg, *lnorg. Chem.,* 9, 32 (1970); (c) *lnorg. Chim. Acta,* 5, 247 (1971).

<sup>(30)</sup> E. Moser and E. O. Fischer, *J. Organometal. Chem.,* **12,** Pl (1968).

# *Table 111*

# **Syntheses and Chemical and Physical Properties of Carbene Complexes"**





 $1923(A_1)$  (hexane); y c

# *Table III (Continued)*



 $NHC_6H_{11}$ 





 $\sim 10$ 



mass spectrum P<sup>+</sup> ; nmr



 $\sim 10^7$ 



 $(Nujol); J(Pt-P) = 3.72 kHz; w c$ 



# *Table III {Continued)*



<sup>*a*</sup> Where carbene complexes are prepared by route B, involving modification of a carbonyl ligand, the intermediate salts [e.g., (LM<sub>n</sub>-C(O)R)<sup>-</sup>Li<sup>+</sup>] are not separately described here. Details may be found in the references cited for the neutral carbene complexes.<sup>b</sup> The letters B-J in this column refer to the methods discussed in sections III.B-J. Binuclear complexes of iron are included here for comparison; we do not regard them as carbene complexes by virtue of the sp<sup>3</sup> carbon of the ligands (e.g., >C(Ph)H. <sup>e</sup> Ir data are in cm<sup>-1</sup>;  $\nu$ (CO) refers to stretching mode of coordinated carbonyls;  $v(C=0)$ ,  $v(C=0)$  specified. Symmetry classes of  $v(C0)$  are given where literature assignments are reported. Mulling media and solvents are given when available. For the nmr data, <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts are on  $\tau$  scale; abbreviations are s, singlet: d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet.  $MW = molecular weight$ ,  $\mu = dipole moment$  (Debye). Of the compounds in the table, the neutral compounds generally give parent ions in the mass spectrum except for complexes of triphenylphosphine, but exceptions to this rule are noted. Data are not available, however, for compounds reported in ref 19, 56, 59, 70, 82, and 89. The colors of the complexes are given wherever they have been reported. The following abbreviations are used:  $r = red$ ,  $o = orange$ ,  $y = yellow$ ,  $g = green$ ,  $w = white$ ; br = bright, d = deep, 1 = light, p = pale. Crystalline forms are abbreviated: c = crystals, n = needles, pl = plates, pr = prisms. *d* Fu = 2furoyl (i).  $\epsilon$  Th = 2-thienyl (ii).  $\ell$  N-MePyr = N-methylpyrolyl (iii).  $\ell$  Im = imidazolidylidene (iv).  $\ell$  BzT = benzothiazolylidene (v).  $\ell$  For X =



dimethylglyoximate. *i* Fu<sup>s</sup> = tetrahydrofuroylidene(vi). <sup>k</sup> Im<sup>s</sup> = dihydroimidazolidylidene(vii).

(36) E. O. Fischer, *Proc. Int. Conf. Coord. Chem., 11th,* E7, 353 (1968).

(38) E. O. Fischer, C. G. Kreiter, H. J. Kollmeier, J. Müller, and R. D.<br>Fischer, *J. Organometal. Chem.*, 28, 237 (1971).

- (39) H. Werner and H. Rascher, *Inorg. Chim. Acta,* 2,181 (1968).
- (40) E. O. Fischer and R. Aumann, *Chem. Ber.,* 102,1495 (1969).

<sup>(35)</sup> M. L. H. Green and C. R. Hurley, *J. Organometal. Chem.*, 10, 188 (1967).

<sup>(37)</sup> C. G. Kreiter, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl, 1,* 390 (1968).



 $Cr(CO)_6 + L_iNEt_2 \xrightarrow{(Et_2O)} (OC)_6CrC(OL_i)NEt_2.Et_2O \xrightarrow{Et_3OBF_4}$  $C$ H<sub>2</sub>C<sub>la</sub>)  $(OC)_5$ CrC $(OEt)NEt_2 + LiBF_4 + Et_2O$  (6)

A variation of this route involves treatment of *neutral* acyl compounds either with acids and then diazomethane or with oxonium salts, affording salts of the corresponding carbene complexes,<sup>35</sup> illustrated in eq 7. Related acyl compounds, *e.g.,* 

 $\pi$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>(OC)<sub>2</sub>FeCOMe + HCl —  $\rightarrow$  $[\pi$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>(OC)<sub>2</sub>FeC(OH)Me]<sup>+</sup>Cl<sup>-</sup> (7)

of platinum may be expected to behave similarily.

Isonitrile ligands, like carbonyls, have been modified to afford many carbenes, the reagents most often employed being alcohols or primary or secondary amines. Reactions of this type involved methyl isonitrile coordinated to platinum, as shown in eq 8.<sup>14</sup> The method has been extended to pal-

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 $cis$ -(PEt<sub>3</sub>)Cl<sub>2</sub>Pt(CNMe) + EtOH —>

 $cis$ -(PEt<sub>3</sub>)Cl<sub>2</sub>PtC(OEt)NHMe (8)

ladium compounds;<sup>82,85,89</sup> and for Hg,<sup>85,93-95</sup> as well as Fe<sup>70,70a</sup> and Pt,<sup>2,83</sup> the *in situ* reaction, without isolation of intermediate isonitrile complexes, also gives excellent yields, as in eq 9.<sup>63</sup>

 $Hg(OAc)_2 + 2R_2NH + 2MeNC \longrightarrow$ 

$$
\left[\text{Hg}\begin{matrix} \text{NHMe} \\ \text{NR}_2 \end{matrix}\right]^{2^*} (\text{OAc}^{-})_2 \quad (9)
$$

The syntheses of the Chugaev salts is another example of this type. However, isonitrile complexes of  $Cr(0)$  and  $Mo(0)$ do not react with alcohols or amines. Treatment with LiBu-n followed by  $Me<sub>3</sub>OBF<sub>4</sub>$  yielded a complex mixture whose composition is unknown.<sup>934</sup>

A particularly interesting recent synthesis involves the conversion of a  $\gamma$ -bromoalkylmetal complex into an alkoxycarbene-metal cationic complex, probably *via* CO insertion and subsequent SNi rearrangement, as illustrated in eq 10.<sup>59</sup>

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<sup>(41)</sup> H. Werner and H. Rascher, *HeIv. Chim. Acta,* 51,1765 (1968).



proposed intermediate

Related cyclic 2-oxycarbenes of platinum<sup>88</sup> and manganese<sup>65</sup> are almost certainly formed in similar ways.

#### **C. SYNTHESES INVOLVING MODIFICATION OF A CARBENE LIGAND COORDINATED TO A METAL**

The structures of the coordinated oxycarbene ligands of several group VI metal complexes (see Table I) bear noticeable similarity to carboxylic esters,  $e.g.,$  in  $C_{\text{carb}}$ -O and  $C_{\text{acy1}}$ -O bond lengths (see section II). This resemblance is also apparent in a number of reactions (see section IV.B): those with amines, acetaldehyde imine (see section IV.B.2), and thiols, e.g., as illustrated in eq 11<sup>45</sup> and 12.<sup>5</sup> Such solvolyses, particu-

$$
(OC)_3CrC(OME)Me + MeNH_2 \longrightarrow
$$

 $(OC)_5$ CrC(NHMe)Me + MeOH (11)  $(OC)_5$ CrC $(OMe)Ph + PhSH \longrightarrow$ 

 $(OC)_5$ CrC(SPh)Ph + MeOH (12)

larly with primary and secondary amines, have been widely used for preparing amino-carbene complexes, including those of binuclear manganese derivatives.<sup>32</sup> Reactions normally afford excellent yields, and products are easily separated.

Perhaps the most surprising syntheses of this type are those involving the enhanced acidity of  $\alpha$ -hydrogen substituents of coordinated carbenes. The methyl groups of methylalkoxycarbene derivatives of Cr, Mo, and W exchange H with D from MeOD in a very fast reaction catalyzed by MeONa." Not only have deuterated species been prepared in this manner, but using an equivalent of sodium alkoxide catalyst and trimethyloxonium tetrafluoroborate, one or two  $\alpha$ -hydrogen atoms can be replaced by methyl groups;<sup>36,37</sup> this is illustrated in eq 13. The reaction has been found in the manganese series  $1.5$  model.  $\sim$   $\sim$   $\sim$ 

$$
(OC)_5CrC(OME)Me \xrightarrow{\text{C} \atop \text{equiv } \text{L} \atop \text{L} \atop \text{L} \atop \text{M} \text{e}_3 \text{D} \text{B} \text{F}_4}} (OC)_5CrC(OME)CH_nMe_{3-n}
$$
\n
$$
(n = 1, 2, \text{or } 3) \quad (13)
$$
\n
$$
\text{MeOD-MeONa}
$$
\n
$$
(OC)_5CrC(OME)CD_3
$$

also,<sup>5</sup> where it has been cited as evidence for carbene structures,<sup>65</sup> as well as affording a route to deuterated species.

# **D. SYNTHESES INVOLVING LIGAND SUBSTITUTION OF A METAL CARBENE COMPLEX**

The lability of carbonyl ligands is widely used in synthesis<sup>96</sup> and finds application in the preparation of phosphine-sub-

(96) P. Pino and I. Wender, "Organic Syntheses via Metal Carbonyls," Vol. 1, Interscience, New York, N. Y., 1968.

stituted compounds of Cr, Mo, and W, as illustrated in eq 14.<sup>39</sup> One triphenylphosphine molecule is displaced by CO

$$
(OC)_5CrC(OMe)Me + Bu^*{}_{3}P \longrightarrow
$$
  

$$
cis- (Bu^*{}_{3}P)(OC)_4CrC(OMe)Me + CO \quad (14)
$$

from  $(Ph_3P)_2CIRhC(NPhCH_2)_2$ ,<sup>78</sup> while Me<sub>2</sub>PhP reacts with  $\overline{\phantom{a}}$  $\text{(CO)C1}_3\text{KnC}(\text{Fn})\text{N}(\text{Me})\text{C}(\text{Pn})=\text{NMe}_2$  to give  $\text{(Me}_2\text{PnP})_2-\text{C1}$  $Cl_3RhC(Ph)NMe)C(Ph)$  = NMe and with  $[(OC)Cl_3RhCMe)$ - $NHC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-<sub>0</sub>$ <sub>n</sub> to give  $(Me<sub>2</sub>PhP)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>RhClMe<sub>0</sub>NHC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>$ - $Me-a.$ <sup>79</sup>

Isonitriles may be similarly displaced (eq 15) in the plat-

$$
\mathit{cis}\text{-}[(\text{MeNC})_2\text{Pt}(\text{MeNHCNHN}{=}\text{CNHMe})]^+ \text{Cl}^- +\\
$$

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n & \text{Ph}_{2}PCH_{2}CH_{2}PPh_{2} \longrightarrow \\
 & \text{NHMe} \rightarrow \\
 \text{Ph}_{2}P & \text{NH} \rightarrow \\
 \text{Ph}_{2}P & \text{NHMe} \rightarrow \\
 \text{NHMe} \rightarrow\n \end{array} \begin{array}{ccc}\n & \text{NHMe} \rightarrow \\
 & \text{NH} \rightarrow \\
 & \text{NHMe} \rightarrow \\
 & \text{NHMe} \rightarrow\n \end{array} \tag{15}
$$

$$
(Et3P)Cl2ML \xrightarrow{LIBr/Me2CO} (Et3P)Br2ML \t(16)
$$

inum series.<sup>83</sup> Anionic ligands may also be displaced; this has been demonstrated for platinum(II)<sup>90</sup> and palladium(II)<sup>90</sup> complexes [eq 16,  $M =$  Pd or Pt;  $L = C(NPhCH_2)_2$ ,  $C(NMe \begin{array}{ccc} \hline \hline \hline \end{array}$  $CH<sub>2</sub>$ , or  $C(NMe)C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>S-<sub>0</sub>$ ; the reaction proceeds more readily for cis than trans complex as is consistent with the higher trans-effect of carbene or  $R_3P$  than  $Cl^-$  (see sections II and V). Likewise, the chloride ligands in  $(OC)Cl<sub>3</sub>RhC-$ 

 $\overline{\phantom{a}}$  (Ph)N(Et)C(Ph)=NEt may be displaced by Br<sup>-</sup> or I<sup>-79</sup>

The well-known nucleophilic cleavage of halogen-bridged compounds provides a route to a mononuclear palladium complex, as shown in eq 17.84 Tin(II) chloride reacts normally



(eq 18) with some Pd-Cl carbene complexes yielding compounds with metal-tin bonds.<sup>85</sup>

 $(PhNC)Cl<sub>2</sub>Pd-C(NHPh)NHC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me- $p$  + 2SnCl<sub>2</sub>  $\longrightarrow$$  $trans-(PhNC)(Cl_3Sn)_2PdC(NHPh)(NHC_6H_4Me-p)$  (18)

Some of these topics are considered further in Section **IV,**   $C.1.$ 

#### **E. SYNTHESES FROM SALT-LIKE PRECURSORS**

The high heat of formation associated with many simple salts may result in an overall  $-\Delta G_{\text{reaction}}$  for processes involving the preparation of relatively thermodynamically unstable products. Coupled with the insolubility of these by-products in common organic media making subsequent removal easier, such reactions are often attractive synthetically. Examples where alternative syntheses are not to date available are in eq  $19,$ <sup>54</sup>  $20,$ <sup>54</sup>  $21,$ <sup>54</sup> and  $22,$ <sup>91,92</sup> Yields are not invariably high (see Table III).

$$
\begin{array}{ccccccc}\n\text{Ph} & & & \text{Ch} & & \text{Me} \\
\hline\n\text{Ph} & & & & \text{Ph} \\
\hline\n\text{N} & & & & \text{Me} \\
\hline\n\text{N
$$

## F. SYNTHESES FROM NEUTRAL CARBENE PRECURSORS

Although at first sight an obvious route, the trapping of carbenes on transition metals has proved notoriously difficult. While there is excellent evidence for the involvement of both metal and carbene (or precursor) in intermediates (see eq 23), the isolation of stable complexes has not proved possible until recently. For the two cases where evidence for carbene intermediates is good, the structures of the proposed complexes (4, 5, and 6) are not yet definitive. For those cases where the structures of the complexes is established *[e.g.,*   $cis$ - and *trans*-(Et<sub>3</sub>P)Cl<sub>2</sub>PtC(NPhCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Table II,<sup>12,26</sup> clear evidence for free carbene intermediates is not available (see below and section III.H).

It is well-established that carbene or substituted carbenes may be inserted into certain metal-X  $(X = H, Hal, etc.)$ bonds.<sup>97</sup> For the reaction of diazomethane with trans-(Ph<sub>3</sub>P)<sub>2</sub>-Ir(CO)Cl to afford *trans*-(Ph<sub>3</sub>P)<sub>2</sub>Ir(CO)CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, a five-coordinate Ir-CH<sub>2</sub> intermediate was proposed.<sup>81</sup> With  $(CF_3)_2CN_2$ and trans- $(Ph<sub>2</sub>MeP)<sub>2</sub>Ir(CO)Cl$ , the balance of evidence (nmr) supported structure 4 rather than an isomeric insertion product into Ir-Cl.<sup>80</sup> The reaction of ethyl diazoacetate with cobalt-(III) octaethylporphyrin has been explored and two complexes, formulated as 5 and 6, have been isolated which were believed to have coordinated carbene ligands on the basis of analyses,

spectroscopic data, and trapping experiments.<sup>77</sup> Definitive evidence for 4 to 6 would be especially welcome, as these formulas are unique at this time in having electrophilic carbene ligands. See Addendum.



Difficulties have likewise been experienced in attempts to prepare transition metal complexes of other reactive intermediates. For example, it has not yet proved possible to trap benzynes on silver,<sup>98</sup> or plantinum,<sup>99,100,101</sup> although one such complex is known;<sup>101a</sup> this was prepared from  $Os_3(CO)_{12}$ and triphenylphosphine in refluxing xylene.

An example of evidence for intermediates is the asymmetric synthesis of cyclopropanes from methyl diazoacetate, styrene, and an optically active catalyst (asymmetric center denoted with asterisks in eq 23).<sup>102</sup>

N,CHC00Me



A number of reactions of electron-rich olefins<sup>103,104</sup> have led to trapping of carbene fragments.<sup>12,78,86</sup> Whether "free" carbenes are involved is not certain. At one time it was thought that electron-rich olefins, such as 7, were in equilibrium with the corresponding nucleophilic carbene moieties; on balance,

- (99) H. J. S. Winkler and C. Wittig, *J. Org. Chem.,* 28,1733 (1963).
- (100) C. D. Cook and G. S. Jauhal, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc,* 90, 1464 (1968).

(103) R. W. Hofmann, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.,* 7,754 (1968).

<sup>(97)</sup> M. F. Lappert and J. S. Poland, *Advan. Organometal. Chem.,* 9, 397(1970).

<sup>(98)</sup> L. Friedman, /. *Amer. Chem. Soc.,* 89,3071 (1967).

<sup>(101)</sup> T. L. Gilchrist, F. J. Graveling, and C. W. Rees, *Chem. Commun,,*  821 (1968).

<sup>(101</sup>a) C. W. Bradford, J. M. Guss, G. Gainsford, P. Ireland, R. Mason, and R. S. Nyholm, *Pure Appl. Chem., Suppl.,* 6,31 (1971).

<sup>(102)</sup> H. Nozaki, S. Moriati, H. Takaya, and R. Noyori, *Tetrahedron,*  24,3655(1968).

<sup>(104)</sup> N. Wiberg, *ibid.,* 7,766 (1968).

present evidence does not support this hypothesis.<sup>103</sup> The nucleophilicity of the carbenes formally derived from bis- (1.3-diphenylimidazolidinylidene-2) (7,  $R = Ph$ ), and related electron-rich olefins, suggested that transition metal complexes known to be susceptible to nucleophilic attack might form suitable "carbene traps." The first carbene complex,  $8 (R = Ph)$ , prepared in this way is shown in eq 24.<sup>12</sup>



This reaction, which is normally carried out in refluxing xylene, has been generalized (see Table **III):** other electronrich olefins which have been used are 7  $(R = Me)$  and 9, and transition metal bridged substrates include  $(Et_3P)_2X_4M_2$  $(X = Cl or Br, and M = Pd or Pt)$ ,<sup>86</sup>  $(Ph<sub>3</sub>P)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>Rh<sub>2</sub>$ ,<sup>78</sup> and  $(Ph_3P)_2(OC)_2Cl_2Rh_2.^{78}$  Reactivity decreases in the order 7  $(R = Me) > 7 (R = Ph) \approx 9$ , and Pd > Pt.<sup>86</sup> The olefin sequence thus broadly parallels "electron-richness," the compounds have exceptionally low first ionization potential [e. g., 6.05 eV for  $7 (R = Me)$ ],<sup>105</sup> as shown by photoelectron spectroscopy, while the substrate order is consistent with their general susceptibility to nucleophilic attack. Halidebridging is clearly not a limiting criterion, as shown in eq  $25$ ;<sup>78</sup> another suitable substrate is  $(Ph_3P)_2(OC)CIRh$ .

$$
(Ph3P)3RhCl + 1 / 2 7 (R = Ph) \longrightarrow
$$
  
\nPh  
\n
$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\nN \\
N \\
Ph\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
-RhCl(PPh3)2 + Ph3P (25)
$$

The yields in these reactions are usually high, and subsequent work-up is straightforward (particularly with the bridge splitting reactions where there are no other products). Whether the reactions are bimolecular or involve predissociation of the olefin is not known. The trichloromethyl derivative 10 is also effective in place of the electron-rich olefin  $(R = Ph)$  for the preparation of carbene complexes as in reaction 24, but is it known that 10 affords the olefin in hot xylene;<sup>103</sup> and coordination of olefin seems a plausible initial step, as shown in Scheme I.

There is no direct evidence for the participation of free carbene in the platinum series. Scheme II shows displacement of carbene using an electron-rich olefin in a rhodium(I) system.<sup>78</sup>

The product of reaction 24 is the trans compound, but in other cases the reaction is not stereospecific, because trans carbene complexes of Pd(II) and Pt(II) undergo isomerization upon heating (see section III.I).

The reaction of a thioketocarbene with  $Fe(CO)_5$  affords



a binuclear complex in which the carbene is bound in a delocalized  $\pi$  system (see Table III).<sup>19</sup> Further examples of this type of synthesis have not been reported.

# **G. SYNTHESES INVOLVING OXIDATIVE ADDITION**

In principle, the synthesis of a metal-carbene complex in which the metal is in a relatively high oxidation state may be achieved by an oxidative addition reaction involving three fragments adding to a coordinatively unsaturated low-oxidation-state metal substrate. Such reactions have recently been realized for a number of rhodium(III) compounds and for the addition of 3,3-dichloro-l,2-diphenylcyclopropene to metallic palladium (see Table **III).** Two different types of reaction paths have been found, illustrated in eq 26 and 27, for reactions of imidoyl halides with suitable rhodium(I) substrates.<sup>79</sup>

The mechanism of such reactions is not yet clear. Presumably the ligand coupling reaction to give compounds such as 11 occurs on the metal, with the latter acting as template. Likewise, it is not yet clear whether or not hydrogen chloride

<sup>(105)</sup> B. Cetinkaya, G. H. King, S. S. Krishamurthy, M. F. Lappert, and J. P. Pedley, *Chem. Commun.,* 1370 (1971).



and the imidoyl chloride, in reactions such as that shown in eq 27 to afford 12, interact within the coordination sphere of the metal.

### H. CARBENE TRANSFER REACTIONS

Only two papers relate to the successful intermetallic transfer of a carbene ligand.<sup>56,58</sup> Among the compounds prepared were 13 and 14. The former could not be obtained by the conventional organolithium route, and 14 is the only presently known carbene complex of nickel.



It seems likely that if carbenes are intermediates, their high reactivity is likely to restrict the application of the method. However, it is not inevitable that such intermediates are involved and kinetic data are not available. See section VII.

Some of the isomerization reactions described in section **III.I** may belong to this reaction type.

# **I. ISOMERIZATION REACTIONS**

At this time two types of isomerizations are known for carbene complexes: those which involve rearrangement of the ligands in the coordination sphere of the metal, and those in which two rotamers are interconverted by rearrangement within an aminocarbene ligand.

For the square-planar Pd(II) and Pt(II) carbene (L) complexes  $(R_3P)X_2ML$  [M = Pd or Pt; X = Cl or Br; L = C(Nl la la la la la PhCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, C(NMeCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, or C(NMe)C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>S-0] it has been shown that the cis isomers are thermodynamically the more stable, being obtained from the trans compounds by heating.<sup>90</sup> This was first demonstrated for 8, which melts initially at 210-205° and resolidifies, finally melting at 315-318° dec; the cis isomer is formed below  $250^{\circ}.^{26,90}$  Such thermal isomerizations among square-planar platinum(II) complexes are well known, but not usually in the sense trans  $\rightarrow$  cis (see, ref 116a). Another method of isomerization involves heating in refluxing alcohol (EtOH but not MeOH for 8, but MeOH for the Pd analog). The reacivity sequences with respect to ease of isomerizations of such trans complexes are Pd >Pt and

 $\frac{1}{2}$  $C[N(Me)CH_2]_2 \approx C[N(Me)C_6H_4S_2] > C[N(Pn)CH_2]_2.$ <sup>90</sup> Thus, for the reaction type shown in eq 24, under identical conditions (heating in xylene), the olefins 7 ( $R = Me$ ) and 9 gave cis/trans mixtures of carbene products, whereas 7

 $(R = Ph)$  stereospecifically afforded the trans complex 8. The trans complexes thus owe their preparation to kinetic rather than thermodynamic factors. Further nonpreparative aspects are discussed in section IV.B.2.

As mentioned in section II, and discussed elsewhere (sections IV.B.l, IV.B.2, and V), aminocarbene-metal complexes may exist in isomeric forms distinguished by different orientations of substituents about the  $C_{\text{carb}}-N$  bond, rotation about which is restricted. For complexes such as  $(OC)_5MC(R)NHR<sup>1</sup>$ or  $(R^2{}_3P)(OC)_4MC(R)NHR^1(M = Cr, Mo, or W)$ , cis compounds *(i.e.,* those having M and H on the same side of the  $C_{\text{cath}}$ -N bond) may be coverted (see section IV.B.1) into trans isomers, and the reaction is base catalyzed.<sup>63,106,107</sup>

### J. MISCELLANEOUS SYNTHESES

A number of curious carbene products are listed under this heading (method J) in Table **III.** These are a Cr-isonitriladduct,<sup>29,29a</sup> derivatives of Mo,<sup>59</sup> Mn,<sup>65-67</sup> and Pt<sup>88</sup> with the carbene ligand- $C(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>O$  (see eq 10), thio compounds of Mn<sup>64</sup> and Fe<sup>19</sup> (see section **III.**F), and the interesting Mo complex 15.61.62 This was obtained unexpectedly from Na[ $(\pi$ - $C_5H_5$ )(OC)<sub>3</sub>Mo] and diazoacetic ester; here, the carbene carbon is presumably not the "potential-carbene" atom of the diazo compound, but rather is derived from a CO molecule perhaps in a manner similar to that shown in eq 10.



# **IV. Reactions of Carbene Complexes**

# **A. INTRODUCTION**

The carbene complexes vary widely in reactivity, from highly reactive carbonyl derivatives of the group VI and VII metals (and iron) to some rather unreactive platinum compounds. Here both types of complex will be treated together and the discussion divided according to reaction type. The reactions have been classified broadly into two headings: (i) reactions in which the carbene ligand is modified; often remaining a carbene complex, but always with the elements of the carbene moiety retained in the metal coordination sphere (section **IV.B),** and (ii) reactions in which the ligand is lost from the metal complex, either by displacement or in a decomposition reaction (section IV.C). For reactions of type i, there is clearly some overlap with material discussed in sections III.D and III.I.

### B. **REACTIONS** IN **WHICH** THE **CARBENE** IS **MODIFIED**

#### *1. Reactions with Ammonia, Amines, and Related Compounds*

The reactions of the carbene complexes of Cr, Mo, and W, with ammonia, and primary and secondary amines were dis-

<sup>(106)</sup> E. Moser and E. O. Fischer, *J. Organometal. Chem.,* 15, 147 (1968).

<sup>(107)</sup> C. G. Kreiter and E. O. Fischer, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl,*  8,761(1969).

covered shortly after the preparation of the first carbene complexes by Fischer and his coworkers.<sup>45</sup> The synthetic use of these reactions has been emphasized (section III.C), and eq 11 is a typical example. Their generality is considerable (see Table III), and extensions have been made to siloxycarbenes (eq 28),<sup>30</sup> phosphine-substituted complexes (eq 29),<sup>63</sup> and



other metals *[e.g.,* eq 30).<sup>32</sup>

 $(OC)_{5}MnMn(CO)_{4}C(OMe)Me + NH_{3} \longrightarrow$  $(OC)_5MnMn(CO)_4C(NH_2)Me + MeOH$  (30)

Aminocarbene complexes (and alkoxycarbene complexes) can exist in syn-anti isomeric forms about the "double bond" of the carbene ligand (16 and 17). The isomers are not only



stable in the solid state, but spectroscopic evidence is available (section V) for their independent existence in solution. In the aminolysis reactions, the products have the syn configuration. The phosphine-tetracarbonyl complexes (eq 29) have the syn structure initially, but the pentacarbonyl derivatives which can be isomerized (see also section III.I) to the anti configuration [completely for W compounds, partially for the Cr derivatives], afford syn-aminocarbenes. The configuration of the starting materials appears not to be significant.<sup>63</sup> In the presence of *tert-buty\* alcohol and butoxide, the syn tungsten pentacarbonyl product is converted entirely into the anti isomer, but the phosphine derivative affords a syn:anti 1:3 mixture. The phosphine-chromium product is not isomerized under these conditions. The pentacarbonylchromium derivative behaves differently. Aminolysis with methylamine affords only the syn aminocarbene, but KOH brings about partial rearrangement to the anti configuration in about 0.5 hr at room temperature.<sup>106</sup> Methanolic KOH yields a 5:4 anti:syn mixture which undergoes no further change during 40 hr. Sodium methoxide affords a similar product ratio, but butoxide converts the amino compound substantially to anti (anti:syn 10:1). Addition of butoxide to the pure anti isomer affords the same mixture, and the position of equilibrium is evidently base dependent. The mechanism of rearrangement probably involves proton abstraction by the base, forming intermediates of type 18, which

subsequently may yield either isomer. Such a mechanism parallels that suggested for rearrangement of Schiff's bases and related compounds.



The mechanism of aminolysis has been studied in detail spectrophotometrically for reactions  $31;^{108,109}$  the rate law is

$$
(CO)_6CrC(OMe)Ph + RNH_2 \longrightarrow
$$
  
\n
$$
(OC)_5CrC(NHR)Ph + MeOH \quad (31)
$$
  
\n19  
\n
$$
\lambda_{max} 406 \text{ nm}
$$
  
\n(hexane)  
\n
$$
\lambda_{max} 362-366 \text{ nm}
$$
  
\n(hexane)

given by eq 32. In eq 32, HX is a proton-donating and Y a

$$
d[20]/dt = k_n[19][RNH_2][HX][Y]
$$
 (32)

proton-accepting species. The proposed mechanism is shown in eq 33. In *n*-decane, the amine itself must provide both  $HX$ 



and Y, and the observed rate follows eq 34, whereas in diox-

$$
d[20]/dt = k[19][RNH2]3
$$
 (34)

ane, which can act as a proton acceptor (role of Y), the rate expression becomes eq 35 (under pseudo-first-order conditions).

$$
d[20]/dt = kT[19][RNH2]2
$$
 (35)

Spectroscopic evidence for the hydrogen bonding with HX has been found. By assuming that the proton transfer from  $RNH<sub>2</sub>$  to Y is immediately after, or even synchronous with, the formation of the carbon-nitrogen bond, it is possible to account for the unusual temperature dependence (negative activation energy) of the reaction.<sup>109</sup>

Tertiary amines, *e.g.,* pyridine, by contrast displace the carbene ligand (see section IV.C). The only thiol reaction known is described in section III.C. Reactions with cyclic secondary amines are described in ref 43b.

<sup>(108)</sup> B. Heckl, H. Werner, and E. O. Fischer, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl,* 7, 817 (1968).

<sup>(109)</sup> H. Werner, E. O. Fischer, B. Heckl, and C. G. Kreiter, *J. Organo-metal. Chem.*, **28**, 367 (1971).

#### *2. Isomerizations*

As discussed in section III.D, there are two aspects to this problem. For the palladium(II) and platinum(II) ( $Et_3P$ ) $X_2ML$ complexes, the thermal isomerizations trans  $\rightarrow$  cis are noteworthy.<sup>26,90</sup> For other square-planar Pd(II) and Pt(II) complexes, the reverse isomerizations are well known and are induced thermally, photochemically, or by addition of base, while trans  $\rightarrow$  cis isomerizations are rare. For these cis and trans Pd(II) and Pt(II) carbene complexes (see Table III) there are differences in (i) color (cis are white and trans yellow), (ii) melting point (cis  $>$  trans), (iii) solubility in nonpolar solvents (trans > cis), (iv)  $\nu$ (PtX<sub>2</sub>) far-ir characteristics (X = Cl), both in number of strong bands (cis  $>$  trans) and position (trans  $>$  cis, in energy), (v) magnitudes of  $J<sup>(195</sup>Pt-P)$  $(cis > trans)$ . (vi) reactivity of chloride to displacement by bromide (cis  $>$  trans) (see section III.D), and (vii) thermodynamic stability (cis  $>$  trans).

As mentioned in section IV.B.1, the restricted rotation about the  $C_{\text{carb}}-N$  bond of aminocarbenes is revealed by the existence of cis-trans isomers. Some aminocarbenechromium compounds have been separated, and the isomers differ in melting point and solubility. The <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectrum of  $(OC)_{5}C<sub>r</sub>C(OMe)Ph$ , which was originally thought to show the presence of only one isomer, has now revealed both in acetone- $d_6$  at  $-40^\circ$ . Details are in section V. As with aminocarbene complexes, rearrangement of this alkoxycarbene requires a base catalyst.<sup>107</sup>

For bis(amino)carbenecyclopentadienyliron(II) compounds, restricted rotation about each  $C_{\rm{carb}}-N$  bond leads to a total of four possible isomers, of which two are shown in **21** and 22 ( $L^1$  = p-MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>NC).<sup>70</sup> Furthermore, if the rotational



barrier in the Fe-C bond were high enough, each could exist in a cis or trans arrangement of cyclopentadienyl ring and (say) the NHMe group about the metal. Restricted rotation about a C<sub>carb</sub>-N bond in an iron complex has been observed in  $(\pi$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)(OC)(MeNC)FeC(=NMe)C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>.<sup>110</sup> However, in this case only two isomers could be distinguished, and they were tentatively assigned structures similar to **21** and **22,** of which the former was thought to be the predominant species (ratio **21:22,** 1.6:1). The isomers equilibrate relatively rapidly, unlike the chromium compounds described above.

#### *3. Deuterium Exchange and Metalation Reactions*

These have been described in section III.C.

# *4. Insertion Reaction with Selenophenol*

The reaction of  $(OC)_5$ CrC $(OMe)$ Me with PhSeH is surprising. No methanol is liberated, and the selenoether complex 23 is formed.<sup>60</sup> This is thus one of a few examples where a reagent might be regarded as having added to a metal= $C_{\text{carb}}$  double bond; it is then necessary to postulate subsequent insertion of the SePh group into the Cr-C bond. By analogy with reactions described in section IV.B.1, a selenocarbene complex  $(OC)_{5}CrC(SePh)Me$  might have been expected. Compound 23 shows a parent ion  $(m/e 406$  and  $408)$ 



in the mass spectrum, and the presence of Me, OMe, CH, and Ph groups is established from the <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectrum. The selenoether ligand PhSeC(OMe)CHMe can be replaced by pyridine. The molybdenum and tungsten analogs behave similarly. In ethanol,  $(OC)_5$ Cr $C(OME)$ Me reacts with PhSeH to form a red oil from which a crystalline solid is precipitated by strong, aqueous KOH. This is believed to be  $K^+[(OC)_5]$  $CrSe(Ph)Cr(CO)_{5}$ ]<sup>-</sup>.<sup>50</sup>

#### *5. Insertion Reaction with Cyclohexyl I so cyanide*

The reaction of (OC)<sub>5</sub>CrC(OMe)Me with cyclohexyl isocyanide initially affords a yellow 1:1 adduct which is very sensitive to light and air and is instantly decomposed by acids. The aziridine structure 24 for this complex has been established spectroscopically and by the interesting reactions shown in eq  $36$ ; <sup>29a, 49</sup> benzoyl peroxide also reacts with 24.



### *6. Reduction*

One example (eq 37) is known in which a coordinated car-

$$
[(\pi\text{-}C_3H_3)Fe(CO)(PPh_3)C(OEt)Me] \xrightarrow{+\text{NaBH}_4} OEt
$$
\n
$$
(\pi\text{-}C_3H_3)(CO)(Ph_3P)Fe\text{-}CH
$$
\n
$$
(37)
$$
\n
$$
Me
$$

bene is reduced to a substituted methyl compound.<sup>60</sup> Treatment of  $(OC)_{3}$ CrC $(OMe)$ Me with Li[A1H $(OBu<sup>t</sup>)_{3}$ ] in THF at 20° provided (OC)<sub>5</sub>CrC(OMe)CH=CHCH=C(OMe)Me in less than 0.1  $\%$  yield.<sup>42</sup>

<sup>(110)</sup> P.M. Treichel and J. P. Stenson, *Inorg. Chem.,* 8, 2563 (1969).

Attempts to reduce carbene complexes of the group VI metals with a variety of reducing agents (including dissolving metals or complex hydrides) led either to complete decomposition or gave no reaction.<sup>111</sup> The difficulty with such experiments, or their retrogressions, is that an oxidation state change of unity is involved. Where a particular transition metal forms organometallic compounds in more than one oxidation state, these normally differ by units of two, *e.g.,*  **Pt(II)** and Pt(IV). For hydrogen transfer experiments to be successful, it is therefore likely that they must be intramolecular.

#### **C. REACTIONS IN WHICH THE CARBENE OR ANOTHER LIGAND IS DISPLACED**

#### *1. Reactions with Phosphorus Derivatives*

A variety of alkyl-, aryl-, and (alkyl)aryl-phosphines and phosphites react with pentacarbonylcarbene derivatives of Cr, Mo, and W affording the cis ligand-carbene tetracarbonyl derivatives.<sup>39</sup> Traces of phosphinepentacarbonyl and bis- (phosphine)tetracarbonyl compounds  $(<5\%)$  are also produced. A kinetic study<sup>41</sup> has shown a two-term rate law involving parallel dissociative  $(-CO)$  and associative mechanisms, the relative proportion of which is dependent upon the ligand. The halides  $PI_3$  and  $PBr_3$  by contrast afford the compounds  $(OC)_5 MPX_3$  (M = Cr, Mo, W), which were the first transition metal complexes of these ligands to be prepared.<sup>112</sup> (For the preparation of these complexes, it is not necessary to isolate the carbene intermediates.) Phosphine itself behaves differently again, as shown in eq 38.<sup>113</sup> The product has the cis configuration, and the eliminated "carbene" fragment rearranges by a hydrogen migration and is isolated as vinyl methyl ether.

$$
(OC)_3CrC(OMe)Me + 2PH_3 \longrightarrow (OC)_4Cr(PH_3)_2 \qquad (38)
$$

With tertiary phosphines, the Chugaev-salt carbene types behave analogously to the group VI metal compounds, affording phosphineplatinum carbene complexes.<sup>83</sup> From the bisisonitrile compounds, the isonitrile ligands are replaced by bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane giving the new salts  $[Pt(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> -$ N4)diphos]<sup>+</sup>Cl~. Other examples of displacement reactions both of neutral (such as CO or  $R_3P$ ) and anionic (Cl<sup>-</sup>) ligands have been described in section **III.**D. With some rhodium(I) complexes, the carbene ligand may also be displaced, as in eq 39 and 40.78

$$
(Ph_3P)(OC)CIRhC(NPhCH_2)_2 \xrightarrow{PPhs} (Ph_3P)_2 (OC)CIRh
$$
 (39)

 $(Ph_3P)_2$ CIRhC(NPhCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>  $\longrightarrow$   $\longrightarrow$   $\longrightarrow$   $\longrightarrow$ 

$$
[(Ph2PCH2CH2PPh2)2Rh]Cl (40)
$$

# *2. Reactions with Nitrogen Derivatives: Hydrazines, Oximes, Hydroxylamine, and Tertiary Amines*

Whereas primary and secondary amines react with carbene complexes of Cr, Mo, and W, affording new amino-carbene derivatives (see also section **III.**C), tertiary amines displace the carbene ligand [e.g., eq 41, py =  $C_5H_5N$ ].<sup>48</sup> The ratio of

$$
(OC)_\delta CrC(OMe)Ph + py \longrightarrow
$$
  
pyCr(CO)<sub>δ</sub> + cis-(py)<sub>2</sub>Cr(CO)<sub>4</sub> (41)

products depends on the conditions of the reaction. Hydroxylamine affords complexes in which the elements of the carbene ligand are not lost, as shown in eq 42. Both cis and trans

$$
(OC)3CrC(OME)Me + NH2OH \longrightarrow
$$
  

$$
(OC)3CrNH = C(OME)Me + H2O (42)
$$

isomers are produced, which are interconverted in an equilibrium whose temperature dependence has been studied.<sup>52</sup> Oximes, however, can afford a variety of products, as shown in eq 43.<sup>51</sup> By gentle warming of the reaction mixture, to

(OC)<sub>3</sub>Cr—C(OMe)Me + HO—N=
$$
C
$$
  
\n
$$
H
$$
\n(OC)<sub>3</sub>Cr—N $\equiv$ CPh + (CO)<sub>3</sub>CrNH=
$$
C
$$
\n(43)

prevent decomposition of the intermediate carbene complex  $[ (OC)<sub>5</sub>CrC(N=CHPh)Me]$ , only traces of the benzonitrile adduct are obtained. Carbene analogs are also produced from  $PhMeC = NOH$  and  $Ph<sub>2</sub>C = NOH$ . In these complexes only one of the cis-trans isomers is formed, and the <sup>1</sup>H nmr evidence suggests that it is the trans derivative.

Substituted hydrazines yield nitrile complexes, but it is probable that an unstable carbene is initially produced. A possible route is suggested in eq 44. It is interesting that the

$$
(OC)_5CrC(OME)Me + NH_2NMe_2 \longrightarrow
$$



 $(OC)_5CrN \equiv CMe + MeOH + HNMe$ <sub>2</sub> (44)

salt  $Me<sub>4</sub>N[(OC)<sub>5</sub>CrC(O)CH<sub>2</sub>SiMe<sub>3</sub>]$  with  $HN<sub>3</sub>$  affords both  $MeNCCr(CO)_{5}$  and  $MeCNCr(CO)_{5}$ , but the reaction mechanism is not yet known.44a

With acetaldehyde imine, or more strictly the acetaldehydeammonia adduct (MeCHO + NH<sub>3</sub>  $\rightleftharpoons$  MeCH(OH)NH<sub>2</sub>  $\rightleftharpoons$ MeCH=NH +  $H_2O$ , an imino carbene was isolated in low yield (eq  $45$ ).<sup>55</sup>

$$
(OC)5CrC(OMe)Ph
$$
\n
$$
(OC)5CrC(N=CHMe)Ph
$$
\n
$$
(OC)5CrC(NH2)Ph
$$
\n
$$
(45)
$$

#### *3. Reactions with Miscellaneous Reagents*

The carbene is cleaved from the group VI metal complexes by mineral acids. Hydrogen iodide reacts with the chromium compounds to form an iodide-bridged binuclear chromium ion which may be isolated (eq 46) as a quaternary ammonium

**<sup>(111)</sup> D. J.** Cardin, B. Cetinkaya, and M. F. Lappert, unpublished observations.

<sup>(112)</sup> E. O. Fischer and L. Knauss, *Chem. Ber.,* **102,**223 (1969).

<sup>(113)</sup> E. O. Fischer, E. Louis, W. Bathelt, E. Moser, and J. Muller, *J. Organometal. Chem..* 14, P9 (1968).

 $(OC)_5$ CrC $(OMe)Me + HI \frac{(\text{ether})}{\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{$  $(Me_4N^{\bullet}) (H_2O)$  $[(OC)_5CrICr(CO)_5]^- NMe<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> (46)$ 

salt.<sup>5</sup> The Chugaev-salt carbenes react with mineral acids by protonation of a carbene-nitrogen atom forming the appropriate dication,<sup>83</sup> without cleavage of the carbene. The phosphinedihalogenoplatinum carbenes do not react with mineral acids.<sup>114</sup> For further reactions of cis and trans carbene complexes of platinum and palladium, see ref 90, and sections **III.D, III.I,** and IV.B.2). Similar carbene derivatives of mercury, however, are decomposed by hydrogen sulfide (eq  $47$ );<sup>91</sup> the metal-carbene complex may be re-formed using mercuric acetate in dimethyl sulfoxide.

$$
\begin{bmatrix} Ph & Ph \\ \hline N & N \\ \hline P & NP \\ \hline P & Ph \end{bmatrix}^{2+} (ClO_{4}^{-})_{2} \xrightarrow{H_{2}S}
$$
  
2
$$
\begin{bmatrix} Ph \\ \hline N \\ \hline P & NP \\ \hline Ph \end{bmatrix} ClO_{4}^{-} + HgS (47)
$$

# *4. Reactions of Displaced Carbene Fragments*

Evidence for carbene intermediates has often been sought in trapping experiments with suitable olefins, *e.g.,* with cyclohexene to form norcarane derivatives.<sup>115</sup> Displacement of carbene from (OC)<sub>5</sub>CrC(OEt)Me can be achieved by reaction with carbon monoxide at 80° in an autoclave.<sup>116</sup> When this reaction is carried out in the presence of cyclohexene, none of the expected bicyclic compound is observed. Instead, the carbene rearranges by a hydrogen migration i and formation of ethyl vinyl ether. The same process intervenes in the thermal



decomposition of carbene complexes with pyridine in the presence of cyclohexene. Furthermore, the presence of the base is not necessary for the hydrogen migration reaction. In the presence of tetramethylethylene as a carbene trap, either with base or by heating alone, carbene dimerization has been observed (eq 48).<sup>117</sup> The cis/trans ratio of the product

 $2(OC)_5$ CrC(OMe)Ph  $\longrightarrow$ 

 $cis$ - +  $trans$ -Ph(MeO)C=C(OMe)Ph (48)

stilbenes is strongly dependent on the experimental procedure employed. A further interesting observation is the presence of traces of  $\alpha$ , $\alpha$ -dimethoxystilbene, from thermal decomposition experiments, but the significance of this is not yet clear. Whether these reactions involve free carbenes remains to be established. The carbenes have been trapped by olefin, however, by use (eq 49) of *trans*-methyl crotonate;<sup>118</sup> the configuration of the substituted cyclopropane was established from nmr spectra.



Also produced in the thermal reaction of the carbene complex with the olefin were small quantities of 25, the metal- $\pi$ arene derivative of the cyclopropane.<sup>118</sup> It is interesting to note that the thermal decomposition of  $(OC)_5CrC(NMe_2)Ph$ afforded Me<sub>2</sub>NCHPhCHPhNMe<sub>2</sub>Cr(CO)<sub>4</sub> rather than the olefin.<sup>119</sup> ' 1



Since known carbene-metal complexes are those of nucleophilic carbenes, the use of simple olefins as traps is clearly not appropriate; compounds such as cyclohexene are suitable for electrophilic carbenes. Electron-withdrawing substituents on the olefin are desirable and diethyl fumarate should be an appropriate reagent.

A further example of carbene trapping using triethylsilane is interesting.<sup>119</sup> In this case the carbene fragment inserts into the Si-H bond. Such traps may be of more general utility for reactions in which nucleophilic carbenes are present, but trans-(Et<sub>3</sub>P)Cl<sub>2</sub>PtC(NMeCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub> with Et<sub>3</sub>SiH affords trans- $(Et_3P)(Cl)(H)PtC(NMeCH_2)_2.^{90}$ 

# **V. Spectroscopic Properties**

## **A. INTRODUCTION**

Until now there has been no direct spectroscopic probe for the presence of a coordinated carbene analogous, say, to the characteristic nmr signals exhibited by transition metal hydride complexes. The recently reported <sup>13</sup>C nmr shifts of  $C_{\text{carb}}$  atoms may provide such a tool (see section V.C.3). Nevertheless, spectral correlations have provided much information about structures (see section V.B.I), activation parameters for interconversion of rotamers (see section V.B.2), and electronic aspects (see section V.C) of carbene complexes. These points are illustrated by some examples: aminocarbenechromium complexes,  $\pi$ -arenecarbenedicarbonylchromium compounds,

<sup>(114)</sup> E. M. Badley, D. Phil. Thesis, University of Sussex, 1969.

<sup>(115)</sup> T. L. Gilchrist and C. W. Rees, "Carbenes, Nitrenes, and Arynes," Nelson, London, 1969, Chapter 5.

<sup>(116)</sup> E. O. Fischer and A. Maasbol, /. *Organometal. Chem.,* 12, Pl5 (1968).

<sup>(116</sup>a) E. A. Allen and N. P. Johnson, *Chem. Commun.,* 171 (1971).

<sup>(117)</sup> E. O. Fischer, B. Heckl, K. H. Dotz, J. MUller, and H. Werner, *J. Organometal. Chem.,* 16, P29 (1969).

<sup>(118)</sup> E. O. Fischer and K. H. Dotz, *Chem. Ber.,* 103,1273 (1970).

<sup>(119)</sup> J. A. Connor and P. D. Rose, /. *Organometal. Chem.,* 24, C45 (1970); J. A. Connor, and J. P. Lloyd,/. *Chem. Soc. A,* 3237 (1970).

 $(OC)_5WC(OME)Me$ ,  $(OC)_9Mn_2C(OME)R$ , and some Pd(II) and Pt(II) complexes including Chugaev salts. For convenience, electric dipole moment data are also discussed in section V.C.I.

Mass spectra have proved useful analytically, when parent molecular ions are present (see footnote on spectral details to Table III). Only one full paper is devoted to mass spectrometric studies (of Cr),<sup>120</sup> and ionization potentials are considered in section V.C.I. A common feature of fragmentation patterns is that ions containing both metal and carbene are present in high abundance.

#### **B. STRUCTURAL DATA**

#### *1. General Considerations*

The structural assignment of the first reported carbene complex,  $(OC)_5WC(OME)Me$  for which either the carbene  $(26)$ or acyl (27) formulation was plausible, was based on ir and nmr data.<sup>4</sup> There are no absorptions in the range 1500-1800



 $cm^{-1}$ , which could correspond to the acyl  $\nu(CO)$  band of 27. The <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectrum shows two singlets of equal intensity at  $\tau$  6.17 and 7.69 assigned respectively to the C-Me and C-OMe protons of 26; the lack of absorptions to higher field excludes the W-Me grouping of 27.<sup>27</sup> [The W-Me group of  $(\pi$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)- $(OC)_3$ WMe is found at  $\tau$  9.55.<sup>4</sup>] The ir band assignments are at 1250  $\nu$ (C-O), 1019  $\nu$ (H<sub>3</sub>C-O), 893  $\nu$ (C-C), and 281 cm<sup>-1</sup>  $\nu(W-C)$ , fully consistent with 26, conclusions which were confirmed by an X-ray structural analysis (see section II).

The question of whether an axial or equatorial carbene group is present in  $(OC)_9Mn_2C(OMe)R$  has been studied by ir spectroscopy.<sup>32</sup> The phenyl derivative  $(R = Ph)$  has the former configuration [five ir-active  $\nu(CO)$  bands], and the methyl ( $R = Me$ ) the latter [nine ir-active  $\nu(CO)$  bands expected from group theory].

The re-formulation of the Chugaev compounds as carbene complexes relied heavily on <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectroscopy.<sup>2</sup> The absorptions at  $\tau$  7.22 (6) and 6.69 (6) of the tetraphenylborate salt recorded in acetone- $d_6$  (relative intensities in parentheses) were assigned to the N-Me groups in 28. In nitrobenzene, these absorptions occur at  $\tau$  7.08 (a symmetrical doublet with  $J(HH) = 5 Hz$ , assigned to the N-Me groups of the heterocycle) and 6.50 [a singlet, not present in the spectrum of Pt-  $(C_4H_9N_4)$ (diphos)BPh<sub>4</sub>, and assigned to the coordinated isonitrile ligands]. Deuteration using excess  $D_2O$  removes the  $J(HH)$  coupling, indicating the MeNH environment of the methyl groups. Addition of  $CF<sub>3</sub>COOH$ , which inhibits exchange of NH protons, restores the  $J(HH)$  coupling in the



(120) J. Muller and J. A. Connor, *Chem. Ber.,* 102,1148 (1969).

diphosphine complex. The broad band at *T* 4-5 in these compounds disappears on deuteration and is due to the NH protons, while experiments, using known quantities of  $D_2O$  by integration of HDO with respect to N-Me signals, showed that there were three NH protons. Other evidence, notably from ir spectroscopy, led to the formulation 28, which receives further support from the X-ray structure analysis of a related Pd complex.<sup>3</sup>

The cis square-planar dichloroplatinum(II) and-palladium- (II) carbene complexes (see ref 12, 14, 86, 90) show the expected two  $\nu(MCl_2)$  stretching modes. In a number of cases assignments have been confirmed by replacement of chloride with bromide (see, *e.g.,* ref 90). The trans derivatives generally show a single strong absorption in the metal-halogen stretching region.

<sup>1</sup>H nmr spectra of the complexes {PtX[C(NHR)Q](PEt<sub>3)2</sub>}<sup>+</sup>- $ClO<sub>4</sub>$ <sup>-</sup> (see Table III) show a regular quintet for the  $CH<sub>3</sub>(P)$ protons (because of strong P-P coupling), indicating a trans arrangement in the cation.<sup>14</sup> Similarly the complexes {PtMe- $[CCOR)CH<sub>2</sub>R']L<sub>2</sub>$ <sup>+</sup>PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> (see Table III) for the cases where  $L = PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph show 1:2:1 triplets for the Me(P) protons again$ confirming a trans configuration. There is evidently free rotation about the Pt-C<sub>carb</sub> bond in both these classes of compound,<sup>14,88</sup> but restricted rotation about the  $C_{\text{carb}}-N$  and Ccarb-O bonds is evident. Nevertheless, the latter compounds do show a long-range coupling  $\mathcal{Y}(Pt-C-O-C-H_2R)$  of  $\sim$ 7 Hz; that analogous couplings have not been observed with <sup>183</sup>W is attributed to the greater gyromagnetic ratio of the <sup>195</sup>Pt nucleus (see section V.C).

### *2. Restricted Rotation and Cis and Trans Isomerism*

The high double-bond character of the  $C_{\rm{carb}}$ -heteroatom bond of carbene complexes and associated restricted rotation about this bond have been the subject of much spectroscopic investigation. For derivatives of the group VI metal carbonyls, cis-trans isomerism about  $C_{\text{carb}}-X$  (where X represents the heteroatom) has been demonstrated, particularly for the cases where  $X = O$  and N, and the barriers appear to be considerably higher than in carboxylic ester or amides.

The complex 29, in which <sup>14</sup>N ( $I = 1$ , quadrupole) has been replaced with <sup>15</sup>N ( $I = \frac{1}{2}$ ), shows an ABM<sub>3</sub>X-type <sup>1</sup>H spec-



trum, clearly showing the double-bond character in the  $C_{\rm carb}$ -N bond.<sup>121</sup> Similarly the <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectrum of 30 ex-



hibits three methyl signals, those of (N)Me trans, (N)Me cis, and (C)Me.<sup>121</sup> Assignments were simplified by comparison with the diethylamino analog, in which  $\tau$  values for the (N)- $CH_2$ -groups are very close to those of (N)Me in 30. The

<sup>(121)</sup> E. Moser and E. O. Fischer, *J. Organometal. Chem.,*  (1968); *NaturwissenschaJten,* 54, 615 (1967). 13, 387

aminocarbene complex 30 shows only chemical shift changes at temperatures higher (up to 120°) than the coalescence points of carboxylic acid amides,<sup>122,123</sup> and it has been suggested that the barriers to rotation are therefore higher in the former case.<sup>121</sup> This is consistent with the observation of homoallylic coupling<sup>121</sup> [5 $J(H-C-C-N-C-H)$ ; for 30 the values are  $0.85 \pm 0.1$  Hz (trans) and  $\sim 0.3$  Hz (cis)], which have also been observed in methoxymelthylcarbenechromium complexes.<sup>124</sup>

Also interesting is the value of  $J(^{15}N-H)$ . Comparison with other values shows that this figure is well in the range observed for  $sp^2$  N atoms.<sup>121</sup> The geminal coupling  $J(H-N-H)$ is significantly larger than that in formamide, but the solvent dependence  $(|J_{\text{gem}}|)$  decreases on changing to a solvent of higher dielectric constant) suggests that as in the organic compound *J* is positive.<sup>121</sup>

The oxycarbene complexes also show restricted rotation,<sup>38,107</sup> but evidently cis and trans isomers are exchanging rapidly (nmr time scale) at room temperature. The two methyl signals found<sup>107</sup> for  $(OC)_5$ CrC(OMe)Me at  $40^\circ$  in acetone- $d_6$ are broadened on cooling.<sup>107</sup> At  $-40^{\circ}$  two pairs of (sharp) signals are seen (at  $\tau$  5.11; 7.00 and 5.61, 6.83; former two slightly more intense), the change being fully reversible and each pair corresponding to one of the cis-trans isomeric pair. A comparison of the intensities and line widths shows that  $J(H-C-O-C-H)$  is different in the two isomers.<sup>107</sup> A variable-temperature study showed that  $E_a$  for the isomerization is  $12.4 \pm 1.0$  kcal/mol (cf. 1 kcal/mol in methyl formate122a). In perdeuterated acetone and methanol the concentration of isomers is approximately equal; however, in chloro- and fluorobenzene, or deuteriochloroform, the trans form predominates.<sup>107</sup> A more detailed study has been made on the series (OC)<sub>5</sub>CrC(OMe)C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>X.<sup>38</sup> Coalescence temperatures range from  $\langle -37^\circ (X = p-Me) \rangle$  to  $+4^\circ (X = o-CF_3)$ , activation energies  $(E_a)$  from 11.5 (X = m-OMe) to 13.8 (X  $= p$ -Br or  $p$ -CF<sub>3</sub>) kcal/mol<sup>-1</sup>, and preexponential factors  $(log A)$  from 12.8 (X = m-OMe) to 15.2 (X = p-Br); with X  $= p\text{-NMe}_2$  or p-OMe, coalescence temperatures are  $\lt -100^\circ$ . Steric effects can clearly be more important than electronic: for example, the coalescence temperature for  $X = OMe$  is  $-100^{\circ}$  (p), but  $-1.5^{\circ}$  (o) (with  $-28^{\circ}$  for m), and it is not surprising, therefore, that for  $(OC)_5CrC(OMe)C_6H_2Me_3$ -2,4,6 it is  $+36^{\circ}$ . However, these differences are reflected apparently in  $\log A$  and not  $E_a$  for  $X = \mathbb{C}F_3$ .

Infrared spectroscopy has revealed another type of hindered rotation in the  $\pi$ -aromatic complex  $(\pi$ -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)(OC)<sub>2</sub>CrC-(OMe)Ph and related species.<sup>125</sup> Various configurations of the molecule, seen along the metal– $C_{\rm carb}$  axis, are shown in **31-34.** 



(122) J. W. Emsley, J. Feeney, and L. H. Sutcliffe, "High Resolution Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy," Pergamon, London, 1965, Chapter 8.

These configurations are analogous to those of the pentacarbonyl derivatives where invariably the carbene plane lies approximately at 45° to the (axial) carbonyl substituents (although this type of isomerism does not occur in this series where structures analogous to **31-34** are equivalent). Three types of situation obtain: **31** and **33** (a mirror image pair), 32, and 34. Nevertheless, only two pairs of  $\nu(CO)$  bands are observed, and it may be that one of the situations is sterically unfavorable, although which species are present cannot yet be determined.<sup>125</sup>

In the series  $(OC)<sub>4</sub>LMC(NHMe)Me (L = CO or tertiary)$ phosphine,  $M = Cr$  or W) where cis-trans isomers have been distinguished by <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectroscopy, the ir spectra show differences of potential stereochemical significance.<sup>63</sup> Thus, in the region  $1500-1600$  cm<sup>-1</sup>, the cis derivatives have two absorptions, while the trans analogs have only one, and that at higher wave number *(ca.* 1570 cm-1). There are also distinct differences in the region 600-1000 cm-1 between the isomers, although here the presence of phosphine makes interpretation difficult. Ir spectroscopic differences have been observed for  $(OC)_{5}$ CrC(NHMe)Me, both in the region 1600-1500 cm<sup>-1</sup> and in the differing  $\nu(NH)$  frequencies for cis  $(3400 \text{ cm}^{-1})$  and trans  $(3330 \text{ cm}^{-1})$  complexes.<sup>63</sup>

Turning now to the group VIII metal derivatives, evidence of restricted rotation about  $C_{\text{exrb}}-X$  bonds has also been obtained, *e.g.*, in the series trans- $\{PtX[CC(NHR)Q](PEt_3)_2\}CIO_4$ (where  $Q = PhNH$ , EtNH, or EtO; and  $X = Cl$  or Br).<sup>14</sup> The <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of *trans*-{PtCl[C(NHPh)<sub>2</sub>]- $(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$  ClO<sub>4</sub> shows two different phenyl multiplets, which are not due to spin-spin coupling. In this case it appears that the ligand has the anti configuration 35. Neither these complexes



nor the cationic alkoxycarbenes<sup>88</sup> trans-{PtMe[C(OR)CH<sub>2</sub>R']- $L_2$  $PF_6$  (L = PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph or AsMe<sub>3</sub>) show any evidence of restricted rotation about the Pt- $C_{\rm carb}$  bond, although the large coupling  $[4J(Pt-C-O-C(R)-H<sub>2</sub>)]$  (see above) may be associated with a certain amount of  $\pi$  character in this bond. No homoallylic couplings are observed in the <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectra of the fluorophosphate salts (contrast the anti isomers of analogous Cr complexes) which suggests a syn configuration for the carbene ligand.<sup>88</sup>

#### **C. ELECTRONIC FACTORS**

#### *1. Nature of the M-Ccart, Bond for Group VI Metals*

While thermodynamic data are not currently available, there is ample evidence that many metal-carbene compounds have considerable stability. For example, complexes of the group VI metals may be purified by sublimation: some cis platinum complexes described in section III.F melt without decomposition (in one case over 300°), and fragments [metalcarbene]+ generally have high intensities in mass spectra. As seen from section II, the  $M-C<sub>carb</sub>$  bond order in these compounds (judged from metal- $C_{\text{carb}}$  bond lengths) is not high, and it was concluded that  $\pi$ -bonding is mainly confined within

<sup>(122</sup>a) J. P. Lowe, *Progr. Phys. Org. Chem.*, 6, 1 (1968).

<sup>(123)</sup> T. H. Siddall and W. E. Stewart, *Progr. Nucl, Magn. Resonance Spectrosc,* 5,33 (1969).

<sup>(124)</sup> E. Moser and E. O. Fischer, *J. Organometal. Chem.,* 13, 209 (1968). (125) H. J. Beck, E. O. Fischer, and C. G. Kreiter, *ibid.,* 26, C41 (1971).

Compound	Trans ligand	$\delta$ , ppm	$J(195P_1-31P)$	Ref
<i>trans</i> - $PtCl2(PEt3)2$	PEt <sub>3</sub>	$-31.7'$	2.40 <sup>b</sup>	127
trans-PtCl <sub>2</sub> [C(NPhCH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ]PEt <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	C(NPhCH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	110.8 <sup>e</sup>	2.44c	90a
trans- $PtCl_2(N-MeBzT)PEt_3^a \cdot$	N-Methylbenzothiazolylidene	107.2e	$2.44^{d}$	90a
trans- $PtCl2[C(NMeCH2)2]PEt3$	C(NMeCH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	110.0 <sup>e</sup>	2.35c	90a
$cis$ -PtCl <sub>2</sub> [C(NMeCH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ]PEt <sub>3</sub>	Cl	136.2e	3.72c	90a
$cis$ -PtCl <sub>2</sub> (PEt <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	C)	$-30.0'$	3.52 <sup>b</sup>	127

*Table IV*  1 P Nmr Data for Square-Planar Platinum-Carbene Complexes

<sup>a</sup> The corresponding cis isomer is not soluble. <sup>b</sup> In CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. *c* In CHCl<sub>3</sub>. *d* In DMF. *e* Relative to P<sub>4</sub>O<sub>6</sub>. *f* Relative to 85% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>. *e* BzT = benzothiazolylidene.

the carbene ligand. This section describes spectral and other evidence for this proposition, and some of the data have been discussed elsewhere.<sup>5</sup>

One item of evidence relates to ir and nmr shifts for the series  $(\pi$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)(OC)(ON)MC(OMe)Me compared with  $(\pi$ - $C_5H_5(CO_2(ON)M$  with lower  $\nu(CO)$  and  $\nu(NO)$  and higher  $\tau$ (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>) in the former.<sup>5</sup>

Other data concern electric dipole moments, vibrational force constants, ionization potentials, electronic spectra, and <sup>13</sup>C nmr spectra (see section V.C.3).

Dipole moments in cyclohexane have been measured for a number of chromium compounds (Table III). It has been suggested that the high moment of  $3.61$  D for  $(OC)_5$ CrC-(OMe)Me implies a strong  $\sigma$ -donor but weak  $\pi$ -acceptor character for the carbene-ligand bond, and variations in moments within the series  $(OC)_5CrC(NHY)Me (Y = H, 5.64)$ D; Me, 6.15 D; and  $C_6H_{11}$ , 7.17 D) have been cited for further support.<sup>5</sup> We do not find the argument compelling; the parameter required for meaningful discussion would be the M-C<sub>carb</sub> bond moment, whereas the measurement, of course, provides the molecular moment.

Ir spectra for n-hexane solutions of the complexes of formula  $(OC)_{5}C<sub>r</sub>C(OMe)C_{6}H<sub>4</sub>X$  have provided carbonyl stretching vibrations;<sup>38,125a</sup> their symmetry classes were assigned and Cotton-Kraihanzel force constants  $k_1-k_3$  calculated. There was a reasonably linear relationship between  $k_1$  and the Jaffé  $\sigma$  constant for  $X = p$ -NMe<sub>2</sub>, p-OMe, m-NMe<sub>2</sub>, p-Me, H, *p-F, p-C\, p-Br,* and *m-Cl* (but less good for *m-OMe, m-* $CF<sub>3</sub>$ , and  $p-CF<sub>3</sub>$ ). Clearly electronic effects are transmitted through the Cr-C<sub>carb</sub> bond, and as a meta substituent is included, a predominant  $\sigma$  mechanism is indicated. For other Cotton-Kraihanzel force constant calculations on aminocarbene complexes of Cr(O), see ref 125b.

First ionization potentials (IP) for a number of compounds have been recorded from mass spectral data.<sup>38,120</sup> For the series  $(OC)_5CrC(NHY)Me$  values range from 6.81 (Y =  $C_6H_4Me\n- p$ ) to 7.85 eV (Y =  $C_6H_4CF_3\n- p$ );<sup>120</sup> other data are for  $(OC)_{5}CrC(OMe)C_{6}H_{4}Z$  which range from 7.05 (Z =  $o$ -OMe) to 7.42 eV (Z = p-CF<sub>3</sub>),<sup>38</sup> (OC)<sub>5</sub>CrC(Q)Me (Q = SPh, 7.83; OMe, 7.46; and NH<sub>2</sub>, 7.35 eV),<sup>120</sup> and  $(OC)_5$ - $CrC(NR_2)Me$   $(R = Me, 7.15; Et, 7.01 eV).$ <sup>120</sup> These ionization energies probably relate to loss of an electron from an orbital of principally metal d-orbital character, and electronwithdrawing substituents in the carbene ligand can transmit

(125a) E. O. Fischer, C. G. Kreiter, H. J. Kollmeier, J. Müller, and R. D. Fischer, J. Organometal. Chem., 22, C39 (1970). R. D. Fischer, /. *Organometal Chem.,* 22, C39 (1970). (125b) F. T. Delbeke, E. G. Claeys, and C. Van Der Kelen, *ibid.,* 28, their electronic effect through the  $M-C_{\text{carb}}$  bond to cause a relatively higher IP. Consistent with this view, there is a good linear correlation between IP and Hammett *a* constants for Z in the series  $(OC)_5$ CrC(NHC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>·Z-p)Me;<sup>120</sup> it would be of interest to have data for meta Z substituents.

The electronic spectra of a series of compounds  $(OC)_5$ CrC- $(OMe)C_6H_4$  X and  $(OC)_5CrC(OMe)R$  in n-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub> have been recorded.<sup>38,125a</sup> These generally show a well-defined band in the visible region at 22,000-25,000 cm<sup>-1</sup> (for Z = NMe<sub>2</sub> or OMe there is an additional band at  $28,000$  or  $32,000$  cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively) with  $\log \epsilon$  3.76–4.11 mol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>. The bands were tentatively assigned to  $\pi-\pi^*$  transitions, and for limited data a correlation with IP's was suggested for  $(OC)_5CrC(Y)Me: Y =$ NHMe,  $v_{\text{max}}$  27,400 cm<sup>-1</sup> and IP = 7.30 eV, compared with (i) 26,500 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 7.46 eV, for Y = OMe, and (ii) 21,500  $cm^{-1}$  and 7.17 eV, for  $Y =$  SPh; we do not find such a correlation self-evident.

## *2. Trans Influence in Square-Planar Platinum Complexes*

The trans influence is regarded here as the tendency of a ligand to weaken the bond trans to itself.<sup>126</sup> This problem is now considered for square-planar complexes of Pt(II), for which information on the following is available: (a) metalhalogen stretching frequencies from far-infrared spectra (it is assumed that the frequencies are roughly proportional to the corresponding M-X bond strengths); (b)  $^{31}P$  nmr spectra (it is assumed that there is a correlation between covalency and coupling constants  $J(^{31}P-^{195}Pt)$  and  $J(^{1}H-^{195}Pt)$ in the appropriate bonds); (c) metal-ligand bond lengths from structural studies (it is assumed that changes in M-X bond lengths for two complexes differing only in the ligand trans to X is related to the trans influence of that ligand).

Data appropriate for (a), (b), and (c) are in Tables IV-VII. Collectively they suggest that the trans influence of a nucleophilic carbene ligand is similar to that of a trialkylphosphine.

Correlations have also been made between  $J(^1H-Pt)$  and the trans influence of L in complexes having the trans H-Pt-L and trans Me-Pt-L arrangement. In the series *trans-{*PtMe-  $[CCOR)CH<sub>2</sub>R']L<sub>2</sub>$ <sup>+</sup>PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>, there is evidence for high trans influence of the carbene ligands, here comparable with that of a methyl group.<sup>88</sup> That alkoxycarbenes should show a higher trans influence than amino analogs might be expected from *<sup>1</sup>*<sup>3</sup>C nmr data (see below).

<sup>(126)</sup> A. Pidcock, R. E. Richards, and L. M. Venanzi, /. *Chem. Soc. A,*  1707(1966).

<sup>(127)</sup> S. O. Grim, R. L. Keiter, and W. McFarlane, *Inorg. Chem.,* 6, 1133(1967).

Table	
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Metal-Ligand Stretching Frequencies for Square-Planar Carbene Complexes



 $^a$  BzT = benzothiazolylidene.

*Table VI* 

Platinum-Phosphorus Bond Lengths in Pt(II) Complexes

Compound	Trans ligand Pt-P, A		Ref
trans- $PtCl2[C(NPhCH2)2]PEt3$	C(NPhCH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	2.29	12, 26
trans- $PtCl2(PEt3)2$	$PEt_3$	2.30	130
trans- $PtCl(H)(PEtPh2)2$	PEtPh <sub>2</sub>	2.27	131
$cis$ -PtCl <sub>2</sub> [C(OEt)NHPh]PEt <sub>3</sub>	C1	2.24	114
$cis$ -PtCl <sub>2</sub> (CNPh)PEt <sub>3</sub>	Сl	2.24	114
$cis$ -PtCl <sub>2</sub> (PMe <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Сl	2.26	132
		2.24	

#### *Table VII*

Platinum-Chlorine Bond Lengths in Pt(II) Complexes



# *3.*<sup>13</sup>C *Nmr Spectra*

Modern techniques have made <sup>13</sup>C nmr spectra accessible with samples having this isotope in natural abundance.<sup>135,136</sup> For transition metal-carbene complexes the method is potentially of great diagnostic value. Table VIII shows the chemical shifts of the carbene carbon atoms in several chromium complexes and for a platinum compound. The values are similar those found for carbonium ions;<sup>137,138</sup> e.g., the chemical shift of  $Me<sub>3</sub>C<sup>+</sup>$  is some 273 ppm to lower field than in Me<sub>3</sub>-CCl.<sup>139</sup> Thus of 18 organometallic compounds examined in ref 23, the carbene  $(OC)_5$ CrC $(OMe)$ Me had by far the lowest  $\delta^{(13)}$ C), although the compound  $(\pi$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)(OC)<sub>2</sub>FeCOMe with the closest  $\delta$  (<sup>13</sup>C) has a M-C(sp<sup>2</sup>) bond. This is in agree-

(130) G. G. Messmer and E. L. Amma, *Inorg. Chem.,* 5,1775 (1966).







*"* Abbreviations: Fc = ferrocenyl, Fu = 2-furoyl,Th = 2-thienyl. <sup>b</sup> Shifts measured relative to Me<sub>4</sub>Si in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, with 10% added C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>6</sub>. They are  $\pm 0.3$  ppm.

ment with our view of coordinated carbenes as electrophilic centers (see section II). This interpretation of the shifts very probably represents a considerable oversimplification; a more appropriate description may require a mixing of electronic states, as has been found for <sup>13</sup>C shifts in purely organic systems.<sup>140,141</sup> Nevertheless, the diagnostic value remains and several trends are identifiable. Thus, shifts may be seen to correlate well with the donor-acceptor properties of substituents. The greater degree of  $C_{\rm carb}$ -X  $\pi$ -bonding where X = N rather than  $X = O$  is reflected in the greater shielding of  $C<sub>carb</sub>$  in aminocarbene complexes. Also noteworthy is an inverse linear relation between  $\delta^{(13)}$ C) and the wavelength of the electronic charge-transfer band from metal to ligand.

# **VI. Metal-Carbene Complexes as Reaction Intermediates**

Several important organic syntheses may involve carbenes coordinated to a metal center.

(140) J. A. Pople, *Discuss. Faraday Soc,* 34, 7 (1962).

<sup>(128)</sup> D. M. Adams, J. Chatt, J. Gerratt, and A. D. Westland, *J. Chem.*  Soc, 734 (1964).

<sup>(129)</sup> A. D. Allen and M. C. Baird, *Chem. lnd. (London),* 139 (1965).

<sup>(131)</sup> R. Eisenberg and J. A. Ibers, *ibid.,* 4,773 (1965).

<sup>(132)</sup> G. G. Messmer, E. L. Amma, and J. A. Ibers, *ibid.,* 6,725 (1967).

<sup>(133)</sup> J. A. Connor, E. W. Randall, and E. Rosenberg, unpublished observations.

<sup>(134)</sup> D. J. Cardin, B. Cetinkaya, E. Cetinkaya, M. F. Lappert, E. W.

Randall, and E. Rosenberg, /. *Chem. Soc, Dalton Trans.,* in press.

<sup>(135)</sup> E. Breitmeier, G. Jung, and W. Voelter, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl,* 10, 673 (1971).

<sup>(136)</sup> E. W. Randall, *Chem. Brit.,* 371 (1971).

<sup>(137)</sup> J. B. Stothers, *Quart. Rev., Chem. Soc.,* 19, 144 (1965).

<sup>(138)</sup> P. S. Pregosin and E. W. Randall, "Physical Methods in Organic<br>Chemistry." Academic Press, New York, N. Y., 1971.<br>(139) G. A. Olah, E. B. Baker, J. C. Evans, W. S. Tolgyesi, J. S. Mc-<br>Intyre, and I. J. Bastien, J. *A* 

<sup>(141)</sup> J. A. Pople, *MoI. Phys.,* 7, 301 (1964).

<sup>(142)</sup> D. J. Cardin, B. Cetinkaya, and M. F. Lappert, *Chem. Soc. Rev.,*  in press.

**Reactions Involving Complexed Carbene Intermediates** 

Reactantsª	<b>Products</b>	Ref
LMCXY(halogen), alkenes	Cyclopropanes	144, 145
$R^{1}R^{2}C(halogen)_{2}$ , $Cr^{II}(aq)$	Cyclopropanes (etc.)	146
$Ni(CO)4$ , LiR	Acyl compounds	147, 148
$Fe(CO)$ <sub>5</sub> , LiR	Acyl compounds	149
Strained carbocyclics. various metal catalysts	Valence isomers	150
Diazoalkanes, metal salts (especially $CuH$ )	Carbenes, and subsequent products	151
Olefins (dismutation reaction), metal catalysts	Disproportionated olefins	152

<sup>a</sup> The carbene carbon atom is derived from the reactant on the left-hand side

Some important examples are shown in Table IX, with references. A detailed account of these reactions is given in ref 142; here we briefly describe carbene intermediates in reactions which are not of synthetic value. An example is the cation  ${[(\pi-C_5H_5)(OC)_2FeCH_2]^+}$ ,<sup>72</sup> prepared either from the analogous chloro- or methoxymethyl- compounds. Some evidence for this species is provided by the *stereo*specific trapping of methylene by cis- or trans-2-butenes and also after separation of other products.<sup>71</sup> Further examples are  $\{(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_2(\text{OC})\text{Cl} \text{rCH}_2\}$ , possibly an intermediate in the insertion of  $CH_2$  from  $CH_2N_2$  into the Ir-Cl bond of *trans*- $(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_2(\text{OC})\text{ClIr}$ ,<sup>81</sup> and  $\{[(\pi\text{-C}_3\text{H}_5)(\text{OC})_3\text{MoCH}_2]^+\}$ , formed by reaction of silver salts with  $(\pi$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)(OC)<sub>3</sub>Mo-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl.<sup>71</sup> A related anion  $\{[(\pi-C_5H_5)(OC)_3MoCH_2]^- \}$  has been postulated as an intermediate (eq 50).<sup>143</sup> The methyl

$$
(\pi\text{-}C_{5}H_{5})(OC)_{3}MoCH_{2}SiMe_{3} + [(\pi\text{-}C_{5}H_{5})(OC)_{3}Mo]^{-}Na^{+} \longrightarrow
$$
  
 
$$
\{ [(\pi\text{-}C_{5}H_{5})(OC)_{3}MoCH_{2}]^{-}Na^{+} \} \xrightarrow{\text{solved} \atop \text{solved} \atop (\pi\text{-}C_{5}H_{5})(OC)_{3}MoCH_{3} \quad (50)
$$

group of the product has been shown by isotopic labeling to be that derived from the  $CH<sub>2</sub>$  group of the silylmethyl species. The unusually reactive C-Si bond is presumably related to a large neighboring-group effect stabilization in the methylene-molybdenum anion.

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- (152a) Tables X and XI will appear following these pages in the micro-<br>film edition of this volume of the journal. Single copies may be ob-<br>tained from the Business Operations Office, Books and Journals Divi-<br>sion, Americ

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# **Wl.** *Addendum*

This section, added in proof, provides a brief account of material published since the submission of the manuscript, and makes possible coverage of the literature up to August 1972. The text reports new developments, and Tables X and XI (which appear in the microfilm edition) provide structures and molecular parameters<sup>166-172</sup> and data,<sup>173-192</sup> respectively, on new compounds. Recent work from Fischer's laboratory has been summarized in two short reviews.<sup>153,154</sup>

<sup>13</sup>C nmr spectra confirm that the carbene carbon atom is highly deshielded in a series of Cr and W complexes<sup>155</sup> and for a Pt compound.<sup>156</sup> The electrophilic character of the carbene center is further illustrated by the chemical shifts of the  $\alpha$  protons in secondary (CHX) carbenes [for Cr, Fe, Rh,  $-1.2$  to  $+0.9$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)].<sup>157</sup>

Experimental details are now available for the series of cationic carbene complexes of platinum reported briefly in ref 88a (see Table III).<sup>158</sup> Carbenes derived from the Cr group metal complexes have been trapped both by  $Ph_2SiH_2^{159}$  and by olefins with cyclopropane formation.<sup>160</sup> Electron-rich olefins have been shown to react with both  $Fe(CO)_6$  and  $Cr(CO)_6$  affording mono- and dicarbene complexes, respectively;<sup>161</sup> details are now available for the carbene transfer reactions from  $(\pi\text{-}C_{\delta}H_{\delta})(OC)(ON)MoC(X)Ph$  to  $Fe(CO)_{\delta}$ , 162 and it is possible that these proceed *via* the intermediate electron-rich olefins  $Ph(X)C=C(X)Ph$ . Differing orientations of the naphthyl group in  $(OC)_5$ CrC(NHCHMePh)-1-naphthyl give rise to isomerism of a type not previously known in carbene complexes.<sup>163</sup> Trialkylphosphines, -arsines, and -stibines react with  $(OC)_{6}CrC(OME)$  Me in benzene to yield cis-trans mixtures of the substituted products, whereas the triaryl analogs afforded only the cis isomers.<sup>164</sup> The secondary phosphine  $PHMe<sub>2</sub>$  by contrast affords an adduct  $(OC)<sub>5</sub>CrC(OMe)$ -(Ph)PHMe2 with the methoxyphenylcarbene complex, and carbon monoxide is not displaced.<sup>166</sup> The porphine complexes 5 and 6 have now been reformulated without carbene ligands.<sup>165a</sup>

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